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LITERATURE

A History of the British Army. By the Hon. J. W. Fortescue.—Part I. To the Close of the Seven Years' War. 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)

Six years ago the late Col. Clifford Walton published a book on the British army with a title almost identical with that of these volumes. He, however, died before he could carry his history beyond 1700, and thus there was plenty of room left for Mr. Fortescue. Moreover, Col. Walton began with the restoration of Charles II., whereas Mr. Fortescue rather ambitiously makes the Anglo-Saxon army his starting-point, and in nearly two hundred pages ventures to supply a concise sketch of the military system of our ancestors down to the beginning of the rebellion in 1642. There is no need to dwell on the slips, which are numerous in this compilation; suffice it to say that cannon again appear at Crecy, although there is no evidence that any cannon were used, and the defeats of the English in France at Beaugé and Formigny—the latter especially notable in the history of tactics—are barely mentioned.

The work greatly improves when the author comes to what he rightly considers his proper starting-point—the formation of the New Model army in 1645. By what he aptly calls "the irony of fate" the royal residence Windsor was selected for the scene of the formation of the New Model army, the senior regiment being Cromwell's two regiments of horse, fused into one under the colonelcy of Fairfax. The organization of the three arms is clearly described and full of interest. Such an army involved

"the incipient organisation of a War-Department as seen in the Committee of the Army working with the Treasurers at War on one side and the ancient Office of Ordnance on the other, and in the appointment of a single commander-in-chief for all the forces in England, Scotland, and Ireland.....Next must be mentioned the organisation of regiments with frames of a fixed strength, regiments of horse with six troops, and of foot and dragoons with ten companies, and the maintenance of a fixed establishment for services of artillery and transport. Further, to combine the unity of the Army

with the distinction of the various corps that composed it, there was the adoption of the historic scarlet uniform differenced by the facings of the several regiments."

In describing the administration of the army under the later Stuarts Mr. Fortescue points out that the powers of Monk, the first Commander-in-Chief, were very great:—

"He had authority to raise forces, to fix the establishment, to issue commissions to all officers executive and administrative, and to frame Articles of War for the preservation of discipline; he signed all warrants for expenditure of money or stores, and, in a word, he exerted the sovereign's powers as the sovereign's deputy in charge of the Army."

The rest of the work of administration was confided to the Master-General of the Ordnance, the Paymaster-General, and the Secretary at War. The Master-General of the Ordnance was assisted by the Lieutenant-General and the Surveyor-General. The Lieutenant-General estimated the amount of stores required for the army and navy, made contracts for them, and provided for the efficiency of the artillery in regard to both men and guns. The Surveyor-General was entrusted with the custody and care of stores and of everything connected with engineering, such as it then was. The Paymaster-General was independent of the House of Commons, which never voted a sixpence expressly for the army. The Secretary at War was originally secretary to the forces, and held a military commission "bidding him obey such orders as he should from time to time receive from the king or the general of the forces for the time being, according to the discipline of war." In fact, he was little more than a secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, and at first received only ten shillings a day, an amount which was doubled in 1669. Seven years later, when there was no longer a Commander-in-Chief, he was, probably through the king's indolence, entrusted with the charge of quarters, despatch of convoys, &c. Thus a civilian clerk was the germ of the present all-powerful Secretary of War. Mr. Fortescue is throughout exceedingly bitter against civilian interference with military matters, and is fond of quoting many instances of the mischief caused by such action.

Of the Tudors, Mary was the first sovereign who was considerate for old soldiers; her sister was impatient of them, as she showed on many occasions. Charles II., with all his faults, had more feeling for them, and in 1680 Kilmainham was founded, Chelsea following in the succeeding year. The story runs that the king granted the ground on which it stands, but the gift had scarcely been made when he recollects that he had previously given the site to Nell Gwyn; but that good-hearted creature at once waived her right, and Sir Stephen Fox, the Paymaster-General, who deservedly earned an ill name by his peculations, and made much money by deductions from soldiers' pay, was, to his credit be it said, among the foremost of those who encouraged the good work. Parliament has really never done anything for the hospital, which is in right the property of the army, paid for in the main by deductions from the pay of the soldiers.

It is only by the jugglery of accountants that any other idea can be supported. As an instance of the rascality of civil officials connected with the army, Mr. Fortescue mentions the case of William Harbord, who was treasurer of the army and an M.P. in 1689, when Schomberg's force was wasting away in Ireland for want of pay and proper supplies:—

"By some jobbery he had contrived to obtain an independent troop of cavalry, for which he drew pay as though it were complete, though the troop in reality consisted of himself, two clerks whom he put down as officers, and a standard which he kept in his bedroom. This was the only corps which was regularly paid. The other regiments he turned equally to his own advantage by sending home false muster-rolls in order to draw the pay of the vacancies; but whenever the question of payment of the men was raised, he evaded it and went to England, pleading the necessity of attending to his duties in the House of Commons."

In dealing with the army at the beginning of the eighteenth century the author draws attention to the terrible prevalence of desertion, and mentions a curious fact in connexion with this crime. It appears that regiments, when changing quarters from one part of Great Britain to another, were frequently sent by sea to prevent facilities for desertion. Mr. Fortescue considers that this precedent has been blindly followed till within the last few years. We are disposed to think, however, that for a long time past the reason has been simply economy. Of the tendency on the part of officers to shirk distasteful service, even when that service was in the field, the author speaks with well-deserved censure, but the bad habit continued down to the war in the Peninsula. Sometimes through interest they obtained leave from the Secretary at War; often they took leave without asking for it, occasionally stopping away from the regiment for as many as five years. One of the most signal abuses of the time was the grant of commissions to children. Some of these children actually went on a campaign, and there is a record of one who was on active service in Flanders at the age of twelve. This practice also, with latterly some slight modifications, lasted until well into the current century. For instance, the late Lord Clyde was in action when only fifteen.

The rise to supreme importance of the Secretary at War dates from the time when Bolingbroke assumed that office:—

"From the advent of St. John he assumes charge of all military matters in the Commons, often taking the chair of the committee while they are under discussion. Thus he becomes the mouthpiece of the military administration in the House, and, since the Commander-in-Chief is generally absent on service, he ceases to take his orders from him, but becomes, except in the vital matter of responsibility, a Secretary-of-State, writing in the name of the Queen or of her consort, or finally in his own name and by his own authority without reference to a higher power."

Mr. Fortescue is generally fairly accurate after he gets quit of the Middle Ages, where he has not attempted independent research, but we cannot imagine whence he obtained the mistaken idea that in 1716 a battalion was added to each of the three regiments of Guards. The seven battalions of which, till a couple of years ago, the Guards consisted had long previously existed.

The final chapter presents us with a review of the army at the middle of the last century. The author calls attention to the foolish speeches it was usual to make in obedience to the traditional belief in the House of Commons regarding a standing army, the echoes of which are even now to be heard occasionally; and he loses no chance of attacking the War Office, which he charges with being only efficient when jobbery was in question:—

"The interference of civilian administrators and of irresponsible politicians with military discipline had wrought mischief untold. Officers could not be brought to do duty with their regiments. Stair found the difficulty insuperable; so also did Hawley; so even did Cumberland in Scotland; while in the garrison of Minorca the evil transcended all bounds. Thus both the personnel and matériel of the Army were nearly ruined, the former by persistent jobbery and meddling on the part of civil officials, the latter by the equally persistent carping of factious critics in the House of Commons, which forbade the presentation of estimates for necessary works. The military system was in fact a chaos; and it was only by the strenuous efforts of two men, who strangely enough abominated each other, that this chaos was reduced to order."

The two men in question were Cumberland and Pitt. To the first, as an administrator, justice has never been done, for his failure as a general in the field and his brutality in Scotland brought obloquy upon him. "His Royal Highness the Duke," as he was styled in the 'Army List,' was by no means a general of genius, yet he was an honest, business-like administrator, although, like his father, he had an absurd weakness for military tailoring; and he did much to establish discipline and put an end to the jobbery of the Secretary at War, who "almost reverts to his old position of Clerk to the Commander-in-Chief." As for Pitt, on one occasion he uttered words in the House of Commons which that assembly would do well to bear in mind now:—

"'We,' he said, 'have no business with the conduct of the Army, nor with their complaints one against another. If we give ear to any such complaint we shall either destroy all discipline, or the House will be despised of officers and despised of soldiers.'"

To the book itself the reader must go for the description of the discipline and mode of recruiting during the Seven Years' War. They were as bad as they well could be, as the records of the time are enough to show. George I. had tried to stop illegal deductions from the soldier's pay and to lessen the excessive severity of punishment; still the army had been steadily growing less efficient since the retirement of Marlborough. We cannot, however, follow the author through the wars of the eighteenth century. The account of the campaigns in Flanders is excellent; but the author is somewhat unfair to the Irish brigade at Fontenoy; the earlier exploits of Clive are well described, and so is Wolfe's attack on Quebec. The author promises in two more volumes to bring the history of the army down to 1870, the year before the creation of Mr. Cardwell's new model.

There are a few misprints. The Marquis de Pescara becomes, both in the text and index, the Marquis Pescaya.

Southern Arabia. By Theodore Bent and Mrs. Bent. With a Portrait, Maps, and Illustrations. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

The late Mr. Theodore Bent was not a scientific archaeologist of the modern standard, but his death was nevertheless a severe loss to archaeology. He was a keen and untiring explorer, willing to sacrifice time, money, and personal comfort to his darling pursuit, and sometimes succeeding in a manner that might well arouse the envy of much better equipped scholars. We shall not easily find another to fill his place, with equal zeal, energy, perseverance, and self-devotion, and aided by a wife who shared to the full his courage and enthusiasm. These last records of their journeys are a pathetic memorial of honest work carried out with unflinching pluck and endurance. Seven different expeditions are here related, extending from 1889 to 1897, and all of them were connected with the coasts or islands of Arabia. In 1889 Mr. and Mrs. Bent explored the Bahrein Islands, not for pearls, their special products, but for Phœnician tombs, with some interesting results. Maskat was visited, and the neighbourhood examined for antiquities, in 1889 and 1895. In the winter of 1893-4 the most difficult and important of all these journeys was accomplished in the almost unknown interior of Hadramaut. In 1894-5 Dhofar and the Gara mountains formed the region of exploration; and after investigating ancient sites on the west coast of the Red Sea, in the next winter the travellers, accompanied by Mr. Bennett, visited Sokotra; after which a journey in the Fadli country in the Yemen, followed by a disastrous fever, brought an adventurous career to an end. Mrs. Bent has done the best she could with her husband's notes, filled in and supplemented by her own diary, but it must be frankly confessed that this best might be easily bettered. There is far too much of trivial detail in her book, and too little of scientific precision. People who travel in remote parts of Arabia should at least know enough Arabic not to write "Salek alleh Mohammed" (p. 120); make "jinni" a plural; translate "marhabbah" (*sic*) "very good"; treat the "Ajaib el-Makhlukat" as an author; or speak of "the historian Yaqt"; of "Makrisi" (*sic*), who "wrote in the tenth century"; of "Salid-bin-Ragik" (meaning Salt b. Razik, the historian of 'Omān, the translation of whose work for the Hakluyt Society by the late Dr. Badger is not cited); or of the "first Ommiad Caliph Nourriah," which we take to be a copyist's or printer's error for Mo'awiyah. The Arabic of Hadramaut is peculiar, according to the authors, but not so peculiar as they represent it.

Their various expeditions were not barren of archaeological results, though these are not the most valuable features of the book. Such inscriptions as were found (not very numerous) were entrusted to D. H. Müller for decipherment; and the few characters, camel-marks, crosses, &c., engraved in the appendix to this volume are not of much importance. The two-chambered tombs opened by Mr. Bent in the Bahrein may very probably have been Phœnician. Everything points to the identification of Phœnician sites all along the southern and eastern coasts

of Arabia and Africa, and there is something in favour of Mr. Bent's suggestion that the harbour of Takha, which he believed to be the ancient Abyssopolis, may have been the very port of Punt whither Queen Hatshepsut dispatched the famous expedition. Another port which he identified with considerable probability is *Mavrēōn* 'Ap̄rēūōs, which he placed at El-Beled, the site of the old city of Dhofar. Besides these, he may certainly claim the credit of having lighted upon a port which was famous in the Middle Ages, and yet has never been accurately placed on the map. This is 'Aidhab, on the African coast of the Red Sea, which became the great landing-place for the Indian and Arabian trade with Egypt after the decay of Berenice, and in its turn retired in favour of Koseir and Sawākin. Mr. Bent, we believe, was absolutely right in identifying the ruins of "Sawākin Kadim," as it is now called, with 'Aidhab. No other site agrees half so well with the data of the Arabic geographers; but it is a pity that he could not adduce the evidence of inscriptions. He was unfortunately quite unversed in mediæval antiquities, and his occasional references to "a Kufic inscription" and to remains of "the Kufic period" are tantalizing to those who do not consider that the age of archaeology ends at the Christian era, but realize how much information might have been gleaned from these "Kufic" monuments by a qualified scholar.

The main interest of the narrative is not in its archaeology, but in its people. The Arabs seen by our authors were not the Arabs of Burckhardt, Burton, Palgrave, or Blunt. Nobody had ever penetrated (save one German, and he not far) into the highlands of Hadramaut, and whatever Mr. and Mrs. Bent have collected about the Hadramites is practically new material. These people are evidently distinct from the Arabs of Mekka or Sinai, a small, dark, beardless race, almost effeminate in appearance. Unfortunately Mr. Bent procured no anthropometric statistics—probably had he attempted to measure some of these tribesmen he would have been rewarded with a bullet, which they use very freely—and both the descriptions and the photographs are too indefinite to enable the race to be accurately classed. He regarded them as "distinctly an aboriginal race, as different from the Arab as the Hindoo is from the Anglo-Saxon," and even credited them with a different religion, for which he adduced no sufficient evidence. The account of the people, though eminently unscientific, is worth studying; and Mrs. Bent describes the women's dress and habits, and their extraordinary taste in colours, with minuteness. The custom of painting the body and face orange, the nose red, the cheeks more or less green, with black patterns on face and hands, and of turning the eyes into the semblance of a pair of fish, seems to be greatly admired. Some of the medical recipes of Hadramaut are also remarkable. To tie a plate of iron or copper on an open sore is apparently a favourite remedy; and if a man overeat himself with fat, which (in the shade "congeals in his inside," a cure is found by lighting fires all around him till the fat melts again. Mrs. Bent declares that she saw a successful survivor of this treatment

but she did not see the actual process. One would like to know whether many statements in the book rest upon equally sound authority. But, apart from "travellers' tales" of this description, there is plenty of curious and obviously trustworthy information about the people and the country which was well worth collecting, whilst the photographs of the castles of Southern Arabia are simply astonishing. The land is full of small kings or "sultans," each of whom resides in a towering palace, covering an acre or two, and rising some seven stories high, with battlements and all sorts of defences, and capable, one would think, of housing the whole of his subjects. Probably these huge castles were really intended as "cities of refuge," but whence the people obtained their magnificent ideas of castellated architecture seems to be unknown. India is the source of much of the modern civilization of Southern Arabia, but we do not recall any similar buildings in India that could have served as models. No light is thrown on the subject in this volume. Some of the castles are happily photographed, but where they sprang from, and how far back they date, are problems left unsolved. Probably they belong to the "Kufic period," which Mr. Bent had not studied.

Hadrarnaut fills but a third of the book. There is a most charming and novel account of Dhofar and the beautiful Gara mountains, which Mrs. Bent regards as the one lovely spot amid the general barrenness and desolation of Arabia; and—to judge not only by her description, but by the long list of plants contributed to Kew Gardens—the Gara country must be a vegetable paradise. There is also an excellent account of Sokotra, which has been too much neglected by antiquaries, though Balfour and Schweinfurth have explored its botany. The reader, however, will find more in the way of description than of definite archaeology here as elsewhere. The maps of Southern Arabia from surveys made by the Indian surveyor Imam Sharif Khan Bahadur, who was placed at the service of the expedition by the Indian Government, are perhaps the most valuable feature in a book which, however interesting in its account of little-known regions, is too vague and sketchy to stand as a permanent authority.

The Romantic Triumph. By T. S. Omond, M.A. "Periods of European Literature." (Blackwood & Sons.)

MR. OMOND'S task is made a difficult, if not an impossible one by the organization of the series to which he contributes. He has to write of 'The Romantic Triumph' in European letters, but he is not allowed to define Romanticism or to differentiate and contrast the various literary impulses which are usually grouped under that too convenient word. To do this would be to trench upon the prerogative of the writer of a volume upon 'The Romantic Revolt,' which is ultimately to precede Mr. Omond's in the series, but which, up to the present date, has unfortunately not been published. Mr. Omond has therefore to take his definitions for granted, and he actually plunges into the full stream of his narrative without any adequate statement, for the orientation of his

readers, of what he or his colleague conceives Romanticism to be. He is similarly cribbed, cabined, and confined at the other end of his scheme. Here, indeed, he appears to be under a double disability. He must not analyze the dissolution of Romanticism, or attempt to trace and explain the appearance of the new drifts and currents of thought and feeling into which it has gradually, during the last half-century, been merged, for this is the proper function of the writer of yet another volume on 'The Later Nineteenth Century.' At the same time he may not pursue Romanticism to its legitimate conclusion in Rossetti, Mr. Swinburne, and the Pre-Raphaelites, for he is also limited chronologically, and must every few pages break off in his account of an author with the statement that this or that part of his work lies beyond 1850, and is therefore outside the scope of the volume. In these somewhat depressing circumstances there is little left for him to do but, as he says, "to paint a general picture.....to depict a movement by showing it embodied in its representatives." More properly still, he might have said "to paint a gallery of portraits," for, after all, a picture must have unity, and unity can only be given to the portraiture of a literary age by the stern subordination of individual personalities to the laws and movements which they illustrate, while these, to be intelligible, must be stated and not assumed. The unity of Mr. Omond's book is the unity merely of juxtaposition and synchronism. Byron finds place with Wordsworth, Shelley, Keats; Balzac with Dumas, Gautier, George Sand; and the problem how and in what sense Romanticism can mean both Byron and Wordsworth, both Balzac and Dumas, remains unsolved and unfaced.

The book is not, then, of much use as a study in literary evolution. Just as a bird's-eye view of the general state of literature at a given period over England, France, Germany, and the minor and dependent territories, it is not without merit. The note of Mr. Omond's criticism is catholicity rather than insight. He is not too superfine to take pleasure in Byron himself, in the balladry of Scott, in the drawing-room lyricism of Moore—things which, although the modern spirit scoffs at them, are nevertheless not altogether negligible. It is at least well to be reminded that they once stood for a good deal. The most successful chapters are those which supply a spirited and well-informed account of the French writers of the Restoration, of the quartet of novelists mentioned above, of Lamartine and his marvellous intervention in the politics of 1848, of the palmy days of 'Hernani' and Gautier's red waistcoat. Unfortunately the pleasure of reading Mr. Omond is somewhat marred by the distressing want of distinction in his style. The cheaper commonplaces and clichés have a fatal attraction for him; and what could be more slipshod than such a passage as the following with its intolerable iteration of coupled words?—

"He knows what he writes about, though he loves posing and grandiloquence, and never allows us to lose himself in his characters. Real strength underlies his little fopperies and sentimentalism. Exaggerated and inflated, his Romanticism provoked criticism and parody, the

latter finding meet prey in his sonorous but hollow periods.....Versatile and prolific, he lacked concentration and rigorous pruning."

Le Cardinal de Bouillon (1643-1715). Par Félix Reyssié. (Paris, Hachette & Cie.)

WITH all respect to M. Reyssié, we think that any arbitrary sovereign would have found Emmanuel Théodore de la Tour a most provoking subject to cope with. Nephew of Turenne, and son of that Duc de Bouillon, the Frondeur, who had paid for his turbulence by the cession of Sedan to Louis XIV., our Cardinal, if he lacked the heroic energy of his predecessors, had inherited their restless and intriguing spirit. Imbued also with the intense family ambition, he never forgot that the house of La Tour d'Auvergne formed, with those of Lorraine, of Rohan, and of Monaco, the privileged class of foreign princes at the French Court. In 1671 his twenty-ninth year found him at the height of his prosperity, "living in the most brilliant splendour," possessed of numerous abbeys, Grand Almoner of France, and Cardinal. In his ecclesiastical capacity he claimed to have remodelled the hymnal of the French Church, and to have effected the pseudo-conversion of Turenne to the Catholic faith; as a man of the world he enjoyed the king's favour and possessed to a scandalous extent the good graces of his sister-in-law the Duchesse de Bouillon, one of Mazarin's "magnificently and serenely immodest nieces." But, according to our author, in the summer of 1675 fortune suddenly changed. The cannon-ball which cost France her redoubtable commander removed Louis's sole reason for temporizing with a family which, said Madame de Maintenon, "aspired to be on an equality in all respects with the princes of the blood," whilst the hatred which Louvois had hitherto shown towards Turenne was now expended on the Marshal's relations. But surely these victims were not always immaculate. Thus in 1680, during the fashionable poisoning mania, Louvois seems to have been fairly justified in ordering the arrest and examination of the Duchesse de Bouillon on the charge of complicity with the notorious La Voisin; but this is a painful incident, which M. Reyssié is too chivalrous to mention. Moreover, the decline of the Cardinal does not seem to us to have been the immediate sequence of the death of Turenne, for we find the prelate receiving the Court at a grand ball during the carnival of 1683. Again, M. Reyssié tells how a summons to the Cardinal to officiate at a royal marriage was accompanied by an intimation that his presence at the wedding banquet was not desired; but this petty insult would have appeared less gratuitous had it been placed as a sequel to the wound the king's pride suffered when, on the refusal of the Prince de Turenne to return from a crusading expedition against the Turks, Louis intercepted the young soldier's correspondence with his uncle the Cardinal. In these letters, though otherwise harmless, the monarch found himself described contemptuously enough as a "gentilhomme campagnard affaibli auprès de sa vieille maîtresse," one of the bitterest satires on his conduct and government being from the pen of the

Cardinal himself. He was exiled, first to his abbey at Cluny, then to that at Tours, whilst the Prince, heir of the house of Bouillon, was banished from France.

From these amenities our author passes to the political crisis in 1688, when the death of Maximilian Henry of Bavaria left vacant four sees, including those of Liège and the archiepiscopal Electorate of Cologne. Louis strove to obtain both these preferments for Cardinal Fürstenberg, but the chapter of Liège rejected the king's nominee, preferring Cardinal de Bouillon, who, from the age of fifteen, had been one of their canons, and was now their *grand prieur*. Peremptorily ordered by his sovereign to give his vote and influence to his rival, Bouillon declared that his "conscience prescribed a different course." He was consequently deprived of his position in the chapter, and kept in exile. But what else could the Grand Almoner have expected? Whilst Louis, supported by his obsequious clergy, was at open variance with the Papacy, his power in Germany had increased till it eclipsed that of the emperor, to whose throne he was hoping eventually to be elected. This matter of episcopal claims was a question of Louis's supremacy over Pope and emperor. So completely was Fürstenberg recognized as the paid tool of France that in 1674 he had narrowly escaped a traitor's deserts at Vienna, and now to support his election to Cologne Louis did not merely "advance troops to the frontier," as M. Reysié supposes, but occupied the electorate, besieged Philippsbourg, and took possession of Avignon. Whilst he interfered thus in ecclesiastical affairs outside his borders, was he likely to show himself less arbitrary within his own dominions—he whom Fénelon declared to be "dans la pratique beaucoup plus chef de l'église que le Pape"? Moreover, though the Bouillons had been dispossessed of their lands their name was still a power in Liège. The Cardinal's loyalty to France might falter were he to find himself in the coveted see with his sister's brother-in-law, Prince Clement of Bavaria, established in the imperial interest as Elector Bishop of Cologne. But the Cardinal must have considered himself compensated for all his grievances when Louis sent him to Rome to represent France in the conclaves which in 1689 elected Alexander VIII., and in 1691 Innocent XII. He spent 100,000 écus in three months, a sum of which the present equivalent would be 1,500,000 francs, or 60,000!. He kept twenty-eight carriages for the use of French visitors. At night his chair was attended by twenty-four pages and sixty footmen bearing wax torches. Royal honours were accorded to his kinsfolk by the Pope, especially to the Prince de Turenne, destined so soon to fall at Stein-kirk.

Before long a question of dogma enabled the Cardinal once more to oppose his sovereign—for the French Church had entered on that perturbed period when, to adopt Nisard's words, "la religion, qui eut aussi ses précieuses," established "un christianisme de beaux esprits," with the result that Madame de Guyon was sacrificed to the enmity which existed between Bossuet and Fénelon. In 1697 the duel between these prelates was at its fiercest. The

'Maximes des Saints' had just been submitted to the Pope, and Louis was clamouring for the condemnation of the book. Though he knew Bouillon to be the personal friend of Fénelon, the king now chose the Cardinal to be his *chargé d'affaires* at Rome. The latter, aware of the policy he was expected to pursue, accepted the appointment and its emoluments. The correspondence printed by M. Reysié is most edifying. At first Louis, professing to allow Bouillon free exercise of his own opinion, only required him to impress on the Pope the royal antipathy to the doctrine of the 'Maximes.' However, when the Cardinal, who formed one of the congregation appointed to judge the work, used the liberty of conscience granted him to defend his friend, the king's tone resembled that which Balak adopted towards Balaam. Presently the Cardinal is told, "The best way for you to belie the assertions made against you is to execute my orders without reserve and without quibbling." Finally, when Innocent XII., yielding to Louis's expostulations, condemned the 'Maximes,' the king found that the form of the brief was inconsistent with the liberties of the Gallican Church, so he submitted the document to the French bishops, ordered them to read the book (the perusal thereof having been prohibited by Innocent), to examine the censure, and to concur with the Pope's verdict only so far as they themselves, as judges, might deem fit. After which, says Saint Simon, "le parlement enregistra la condamnation de M. de Cambrai en conséquence de l'adhésion des évêques de France en forme de jugement."

A little while, and the Cardinal's conscience was again troubled. Desiring a preferment for his nephew, the dissolute Abbé d'Auvergne, he nevertheless refused to purchase the proffered influence of Cardinal Fürstenberg. Thereupon the latter, harassed by the extravagance of his niece and mistress, Comtesse de Fürstenberg, turned to the Princesse de Soubise, who, coveting the place for the Abbé de Soubise, offspring of her amours with Louis XIV., paid the prelate, through his mistress, a bribe variously stated at 40,000 écus and at 100,000 louis. But when Bouillon was ordered by the king to obtain from the Pope the measures necessary for installing the royal bastard in the appointment, he refused, declaring, with as much insolence as truth, that simony had been committed. The incriminated ladies raged, and Louis commanded Bouillon to retire at once to one of his Burgundian abbeys; but the Cardinal's presence in Rome was at that moment essential to his confirmation as *doyen* of the Sacred College, an important office to which he had just succeeded, and which a few weeks later gave him the honour of consecrating the new Pope. Not till after that event did he obey the royal mandate. In the interim the French ambassador, Prince de Monaco, had invaded the Cardinal's chamber, requiring him to resign his office of Grand Almoner and the order of the St. Esprit attached thereto. Bouillon replied humbly, but evaded the demand. Then, not daring to deprive him of the appointment without a legal justification, the king called on the Parlement to indict the delinquent. When this plan,

from its intricacies, was abandoned, Louis ordered the seizure of all the Cardinal's property, lay and ecclesiastical; this was restored, however, on the culprit's repentance. But sumptuous as were the abbeys, especially Cluny, to which Bouillon's residence was now restricted, his mind "was indisposed to aught so placid, so inactive, as content." He quickly contrived to aggravate his sovereign by pretensions fabricated by pedigree-mongers. Years before he had tried to get for one of his nephews the title of Prince Dauphin, alleging it to be attached to the tenure of some lands in Auvergne given to his father, the Duc de Bouillon, when ousted from Sedan and Raucourt. And now charters of suspicious origin were, as Saint Simon explains, produced, "to prove the descent of the Messieurs de Bouillon from the dukes of Guyenne, and consequently their right to that province....at the expense of our kings and of their crown." Severe sentences of banishment were passed on the genealogists. The Cardinal serenely continued the elaborate preparations he was now making for the erection at Cluny of a family mausoleum to serve as a lasting memorial of his illustrious origin. Unluckily as this juncture a protracted dispute between him and the monks of Cluny was decided against him by the Parlement of Paris. He lost patience. He declared himself overcome "by ten years' most unjust and unmerited sufferings," and resigned to Louis his office of Grand Almoner, thus "resuming the secular and ecclesiastical liberty which my birth as a foreign prince and son of a sovereign.....naturally gives me." Having thus abjured his allegiance to France, he sought the hospitality of those who were threatening her frontier. Eight years before his nephew Prince d'Auvergne had also made Louis XIV.'s slights an excuse for desertion, had wielded Turenne's sword against the French, and had consequently been hung in effigy on the Place de Grève. He now met his uncle with a strong cavalry escort at Arras, and conducted him in triumph to the headquarters of the allies to receive the welcome of Marlborough and Prince Eugene, who were recommencing hostilities by the siege of Douai. Once more Bouillon's revenues were confiscated, but Louis's desire that the Parlement should decree the fugitive's arrest was not gratified, owing to the immunities enjoyed by cardinals—a reason which, if contrasted with the trial of De Rohan seventy-five years later, seems to show how continuous the encroachment of the royal on the Papal power was from the days of Francis I. to the collapse of the monarchy. Foiled of a suitable revenge, the Grand Monarque adopted one in which our author not unreasonably finds a precedent for the sacrileges which characterized the Terror. In January, 1711, the Parlement was induced to discover that the Cardinal's mausoleum at Cluny tended "à consacrer et immortaliser, par la religion d'un monument toujours durable, les prétentions trop ambitieuses de son auteur sur l'origine et sur la grandeur de sa maison." It therefore decreed the destruction of all the entries in the Cluny church register concerning the Cardinal's family, particularly specifying that which recorded "the reception of the

heart of the late Sieur Maréchal de Turenne"; it ordered likewise the demolition of the mausoleum, its monuments, statues, ornaments, and even the erasing of the titles engraved on the coffin of the gallant young Prince de Turenne.

After a few years passed in Holland, the Cardinal retired to Rome, where he died in 1715. Perhaps we have dwelt too long on a personage who, according to his enemies, such as Saint Simon and Madame d'Orléans, was false, dissipated, and good for nothing. Yet the perusal of M. Reyssié's able monograph affords a clearer insight into Louis XIV.'s relations with the hierarchy than could be easily obtained from that desultory reading to which the gossip of contemporary chroniclers too often beguiles us. We note many *errata*. Amongst the most important of them are that which kills off Clement X. in 1696, and another which gives 1697 as the date of Saint Simon's christening. The Pope died in 1676; the historian was born in 1675.

The Passing of the Empires, 850 B.C. to 330 B.C. By G. Maspero. (S.P.C.K.)

In the present volume we have before us the third and concluding portion of Mrs. MacClure's English translation of M. Maspero's 'Histoire Ancienne des Peuples de l'Orient,' the first edition of which appeared some twenty-five years ago. Like the two preceding volumes, it is well printed and well illustrated, and it contains the inevitable preface by Prof. Sayce, to whom, we suppose, the strange title is due. The period of Oriental history treated of in it is comparatively short, but an historian can have little hesitation in saying that it is one of the most important in the world's life as far as empires and human institutions are concerned; and inasmuch as abundant material of an authentic character existed for its reconstruction, this section of M. Maspero's work is of more general interest than its predecessors. In the 'Dawn of Civilization' many of the statements rested upon surmises and conjectures, and it was somewhat unfortunate that the author had not at hand the results which attended M. J. de Morgan's valuable excavations of the so-called prehistoric graves in various parts of Egypt. The uncertainty which still reigns over the translations made from the non-Semitic inscriptions written in the languages or dialects of the early dwellers in Babylonia makes it impossible to construct a history of that country which can be considered final, and the labours of experts during the last five years have already caused many of M. Maspero's views on the subject to become antiquated, and not seldom altogether untenable.

In the 'Struggle of the Nations' certain periods in the history of Western Asia and Egypt, which were known only by tradition, were described and discussed, and in this case also, if the volume had to be rewritten, many alterations would be necessary. In the treatment of the early legends and histories preserved in the Bible M. Maspero naturally followed the views held by the more reasonable of the "higher critics," and he must be fully absolved from all share in the production of the garbled and "modified" versions of them which the English

editor, or translator, or some other person, allowed to appear under his name (see *Athen.* No. 3626, p. 535). No one who has devoted as much time and study to the investigation of Oriental literatures as he could possibly treat the versions of Semitic and other legends current among the Jews about the time of Ezra in any other way. It is pleasant to see that usually M. Maspero's views are not misrepresented in the new volume, but his readers cannot help feeling that he himself has contributed chiefly to this result by silently passing over many debatable points.

It would be interesting to know what his views are about the Book of Daniel and its authorship, and to have his explanation of the relationship which is alleged to have existed between Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar II., and a discussion of the probability, historically, of the whole story. It is a significant fact that the names of Daniel and Belshazzar do not occur in the index. It may be argued that the consideration of such matters lies outside the scope of the work, but since M. Maspero discusses the miraculous destruction of Sennacherib's army on the frontier of Egypt, the miraculous occurrences described in the Book of Daniel might well have been mentioned, and some of them explained. A perusal of the volume seems to convince a judicious reader that the days have passed when it is possible to produce a book on Oriental history the treatment of which will satisfy the unbiased scholar and expert, and the orthodox clientèle of a society like the S.P.C.K. In the first two volumes of M. Maspero's work the author's heterodox views were "edited" to suit the needs of those who fear the "higher criticism"; in the last volume author or editor, or both, seem to have decided to omit points where the testimonies of the Bible and profane writers clash. We are somewhat disappointed at the result, whatever the cause may be; and more than ever it seems clear that there is room for a history of the "empires" which shall deal with facts and follow them to their logical issue.

The volume is certainly readable, and in a most praiseworthy manner the author tells his readers where he has obtained his facts, adding full references to the books he has consulted on Assyrian and Babylonian history, of which at firsthand he knows but little. His narrative is clear, and will be much appreciated by the general reader and by those who are anxious to possess in a continuous form the history of Western Asia from the rise of the Assyrian power under Assurnasirpal until the break-up of the Persian empire and the appearance of Alexander the Great on the world's stage. M. Maspero is to be congratulated on the conclusion of a long and laborious task.

Christian Mysticism. By W. R. Inge. (Methuen & Co.)

This volume, which contains the Bampton Lectures of last year, will be welcomed by all interested in speculation and religious thought. Its plan is mainly historical; it discusses the leading types of mysticism which have arisen within the Christian fold from St. John downwards. On the other

hand, what the writer seeks is not so much to set forth an historical sequence as to deduce lessons of positive value for Christian apologetics. The plan involves a limitation: the mystics considered are Christian—that is, those who have professedly or implicitly developed their views within the scope of Christian doctrines and within the sphere of the Christian Church. Such a limitation excludes necessarily many forces that have been great either in speculative or in emotional mysticism. Asiatic mysticism, Platonism, Spinozism, later idealism, do not find a place in Mr. Inge's work, though he has made an exception in the case of Neoplatonism; for, indeed, a large branch of Christian mysticism would be incomprehensible, and probably would have been impossible, unless the speculations of Plotinus had gone before. Mr. Inge also neglects the morbid forms of mysticism, or fanaticism as they should more truly be called, such as the mediæval fanatics who held depraved views of the sexual relations. But true mysticism must not be confounded with such diseases; it is essentially a sane, deep-seated, and potent factor in human nature. A clear statement would, however, have been desirable of the characteristics which distinguish Christian from non-Christian mysticism. The former class, it may be suggested, instinctively conforms its expressions, and therefore its views, to the language of the New Testament; for, as Mr. Inge truly points out, mysticism is alien to the spirit of the Old Testament; but more particularly it is profoundly modified by the dogmas of the Fatherhood of God, of the incarnation and atonement of the Son, of the presence of the Spirit, and of the Church of Christ. Its acceptance of faith and of revelation makes it either exact less proof, or require none, of the existence of God and the future state, and the essential goodness of reality. Non-Christian mysticism, whether of the speculative or emotional type, is not merely without these doctrines in their particular form, but has to wrestle in its own way with the raw material of experience, and has to convince its own heart without recourse to authority. Such distinctions involve a real difference, both in form and matter.

Mr. Inge, however, exclusively interested as he here is in Christian mysticism, does not develop, or even discuss, this obvious distinction. His own analysis of the factors of mysticism into the inner or spiritual eye, the kinship of the human and the divine, and the purity of heart, uses ideas which are doubtless capable of wider range, but in their form are definitely coloured by Christian doctrines. After an illuminating analysis of the mystical teaching of St. John, and a less satisfactory treatment of that of St. Paul, he goes on to treat Christian mysticism under three chief headings. First comes that which found its main representatives in men like Dionysius at the one end and Eckhart at the other—a mysticism of an essentially speculative stamp, profoundly coloured by the influence of Plato and Plotinus; next that of a more emotional character, "practical and devotional," represented by John of Ruysbroek, Tauler, and the Spanish mystics; and finally that of the less introspective thinkers, who found in real existence a symbolism of the per-

fection of God. Mr. Inge finds this class embodied by men like Böhme or Law; also by the Cambridge Platonists; later, in still another form, by Wordsworth and Browning. These examples will indicate the range of time and diversity of types covered by these lectures.

It is impossible here to examine the accounts which the book furnishes of a long list of thinkers who fall within these three divisions. Such a general sketch of the leading figures of Christian mysticism, thus classified, satisfies a real want; and the writer, by judicious yet brief quotations, increases its value in letting the thinkers speak for themselves, and thus giving to the reader some crumbs from the feast of mystic eloquence. But Mr. Inge's historical survey is intended to bring out certain positive conclusions on the true nature of mysticism and its bearing on Christian apologetics. These interesting conclusions appear from more or less scattered reasoning during the course of the lectures. It is, perhaps, the most striking defect of the book that the author has not more clearly defined and developed the fundamental ideas which he thus indicates.

In discussing respectively the Platonic or speculative mystics and the devotional mystics he criticizes two tendencies as erroneous and opposed to true mysticism. The one is that of reaching the conception of the absolute or God by stripping off all positive qualities, the "via negativa," or way of abstraction; the second, that of becoming so concentrated in the contemplation of, and communion with, the Infinite Being as to despise all finite interests, the quietistic temper. Of the former he says:—

"I regard the *via negativa* in metaphysics, religion, and ethics, as the great accident of Christian Mysticism. The break-up of the ancient civilization with the losses and miseries which it brought upon humanity.....caused a widespread pessimism and world-weariness which is foreign to the temper of Europe, and which gave way to energetic and full-blooded activity in the Renaissance and Reformation."

Such a criticism, while historically true, tends to confuse the speculative and practical attitudes, a confusion natural enough in regard to the thinkers under consideration. And it is true that God cannot be conceived merely by abstraction—merely under negative attributes. What Mr. Inge does not expressly recognize is the failure of our thought to give a positive content to the idea of God; we may assert that all the concrete fulness of being must be in God, while at the same time denying that any quality we know can, as such, essentially finite as it is, belong to the Infinite Being. Thus mystic speculation (for all speculation which assumes an absolute reality is based on mysticism, and is, in fact, mysticism expressing itself, not in rapture, but in dialectics), while it must retain its positive attitude, cannot help being in the end abstract. Yet the latter is but one aspect, and arises not from the nature of the Infinite, but from our finitude. Similar considerations apply to quietism; for, in comparison with the spirit's imaginings of the infinite goodness of God, the virtues of men seem but worthless. This, indeed, the Lecturer recognizes:—

"There is a half truth in the theory that earthly striving is negation and absorption.

But it at once becomes false if we forget that it is a goal which cannot be reached in time, and which is achieved not by good and evil neutralizing each other, but by death being swallowed up in victory."

The mystic quietist, feeling that all human activity is tainted with evil, seeks to spend his life unimmersed "in the particular," silently communing with the infinite goodness of God. Such a life Mr. Inge condemns as compared with a life of active well-doing, not unvisited with the higher communion. Thus a true mysticism stimulates practical activities and excludes mere narrowness or selfishness of aim; yet he recognizes that the great introspective mystics have enriched the treasures of human thought.

The passage last quoted will indicate Mr. Inge's view of the final purpose of things. Life, as we know it, is the sphere of time and space, of contradiction of evil; all this is transcended, by some incomprehensible transition, in an eternity which is for us "incapable of definite presentation except under inadequate and self-contradictory symbols." And the mysticism which he finally approves he calls symbolic or objective. This sees in the world of nature and of art and of human thought and activity but the symbols of the true and dimly felt reality; and science is so far astray in that it takes its objects as real in themselves, and does not regard them as veiled expressions of the true. From all this not unnaturally follows his conception—which, so far as can be seen, resembles that of Lotze—of a universe consisting of God and the finite souls, all bound together by a sympathy and under a form of unity which our thought or imagination cannot grasp. The essential unity of the souls with God and with each other does not destroy, but rather is rendered possible by, the true personality of these souls. He further seems to indicate a mysterious kinship of existent spirits with the unborn spirits of the future. From his conception of nature as symbolic he would appear to be a pure idealist. For him human activities and nature as seen by human eyes are symbolic, indeed, but of intrinsic value in view of the time when time will be transcended and symbolism cease. Such a conviction or faith obviously involves many ways of thought and feeling, and is open to many lines of attack. From this standpoint Mr. Inge can criticize Pantheism, which he defines as the doctrine that God is "manifested equally in everything," "as perfect in a hair as heart." But such a view of Pantheism is manifestly a misconception of the theory that all being is inextricably interwoven, so that any single part involves all the rest, and in a sense may be thought to embrace the rest. This would not be alien to the Lecturer's own theory.

His argument from mysticism to the truth of the Gospel revelation is difficult to grasp or handle. It is well known, and is shown in these lectures, that many Christian mystics have refused to accept the Incarnation as an historical fact. They would not attribute to a single point of time what was eternally repeated, as they held, in the heart of every believer. And Mr. Inge says:

"The inner light can only testify to spiritual truths. It always speaks in the present tense:

it cannot guarantee any historical event, past or future.....It can tell us that Christ is risen, and that He is alive for evermore, but not that He rose again on the third day."

Yet he goes on to argue that the truth of the historic revelation and the certainty of the inner sense, which is the essence of mystic religion, are so bound up, that for us to deny the one is to deny the other. But this seems to involve a contradiction. It is clearly a reference to a purely subjective conviction, and if it does not mean that the conviction either does or ought to exist in every mind, the cogency of the proof must be limited to those in whom it is actually present.

NEW NOVELS.

An Octave. By W. E. Norris. (Methuen & Co.)

MR. NORRIS'S octave of short stories is bright, light, and of the kind called "taking." They are easily run through, and make no appeal to any lasting impression or remembrance. If this volume does not exhibit its author at his best, it may be that the short story is not his particular forte, or that such things may be too readily "thrown off." 'Miser Morgan' is the first and perhaps the best. 'The First Lord and the Last Lady' is brisk in manner. But none is to be specified as being above the average of the facile every-day story, the daily food of the common novel-reader.

Nemo. By Theo Douglas. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

A FAIRLY original element in fiction is to be welcomed, even though its originality exists only when the point of view is limited to recent fiction. The conjurer who creates a doll or model into which he can transfer elements of human personality from his own daughter is the subject of the story—complicated, of course, by certain elements of romance. It would be unfair to the reader if fuller account were given of the incidents described, and it must suffice to add that they possess an obvious interest to those who are concerned in so-called psychical research and kindred topics. The writer is an author of some experience in fiction, and makes the utmost of the materials of the narrative. A somewhat dry and matter-of-fact method of narration is not unsuited to the subject, and the result is a story which may reasonably excite interest and comment. It is the seventh in a list of writings "by the same author."

The Web of Fate. By T. W. Speight. (Chatto & Windus.)

MR. SPEIGHT has taken more pains with this book than his last—at any rate, he has read his proofs more carefully; yet it is but a shocker of a superior kind, and only so far resembles 'The Chains of Circumstance' in that a point is made of the villain's having a loving elder sister, who reminds one of Miss Bax in that work. When speaking of the villain, we should explain that although Steve Masplin, or Holroyd—a deserter from the army—commits an atrocious murder, and undergoes dramatic retribution when the figure of his victim accompanies him in his last journey through the fatal ford, Sandro Sarti—his faithless

wife's lover—and Sarti's friend the chemist—who unwittingly avenges Stephen—run him hard as criminals and dastards. There is, besides, another soldier of the Queen, a Capt. Pengarthen, who commits forgery, and a wife who marries on the false assurance of her husband that he has an incurable disease, so the atmosphere is sufficiently lurid. In fact, hardly any of the characters go straight; even the adorable Miss Loraine, the actress—for whom in her peasant days Holroyd had planned so terrible a fate—descends to a doubtful piece of strategy when she desires to satisfy herself of the truth of her magnanimous lover.

Feo: a Romance. By Max Pemberton. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

MR. PEMBERTON'S romance of an English opera-singer and an Austrian prince is lively and exciting. It ends well for the lovers after many ups and downs, whereas one had anticipated a somewhat tragic close to their attachment, if not to the life of one at least. The intrigues of the archduke and his household to prevent the union of the pair have vivacity and freshness, and the personality of Feo—the singer—is interesting and pleasing. Of course, incident is a strong point, but there is a good deal of play of character and genuine emotion. This story may not be of the most notable of its kind, but it is made of better stuff better treated and put together than can be found in some that have had a great vogue.

Uncle Peter: a Romance of the Nineteenth Century. By Sema Jeb. (Fisher Unwin.)

An aged or possibly an extremely young person may be the author of 'Uncle Peter.' We cannot say. Evidences of senility, but also of juvenile immaturity, meet the reader at every turn. The teller of the story—it is his own—has an arch way at times, and his "asides" to the reader and his mild jokes are not exhilarating. The reason of the existence of this sort of negative volume is a secret between author and publisher, and the public may not intermeddle in it.

Mirry-Ann. By Norma Lorimer. (Methuen & Co.)

The characters of two women are contrasted in 'Mirry-Ann.' They both live in the Isle of Man, one as the sister of the bachelor squire, the other as a village girl of superior education. The story reaches a climax where the younger girl discovers conclusive evidence of her mother's marriage with the squire's father. The use she makes of the knowledge is the best illustration of her nature and temper. The story is capably written, and contains passages of some power. It suggests the thought that the writer is qualified to do better work and to handle a less hackneyed theme.

Under the Linden. By Gillian Vase. (Digby, Long & Co.)

LIFE in a German provincial town before the war of 1870-71 is the setting given to a curious but clever story, written evidently from intimate local knowledge. The literary work is good, and would have been better if frequently recurring mannerisms had

been avoided, and if every other sentence had not been made a fresh paragraph. There is some need of compression, for the pages are numerous and closely printed; but the volume may be recommended for domestic consumption as an interesting study of family life in Germany.

The Governor's Wife. By Mrs. Egerton Eastwick. (Singapore, 'Straits Times' Press.)

The scene of the greater part of this story is laid in a country where "tropical influences" are described as tending "rather to emotions and their easy gratification than to deeper and more lasting affection"; and the words quoted sufficiently indicate the nature of the narrative. It seems to give rise to two reflections, namely, that a man engaged to one of two sisters and in love with the other, who is the wife of a colonial governor, can hardly fill any part but that of the villain; also that the story possesses a setting that will please the jaded novel-reader. The writing is fairly good, and the best use is made of unedifying materials. The writer clearly possesses the benefits of experience in the composition of fiction.

Similia. Par Jean Blaize. (Paris, Colin & Cie.)

The new volume in the library "pour les jeunes filles" is a homeopathic novel, treating with fairness of conflicts between allopaths and homeopaths, happily in this case ended by a wedding, which unites divided families.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

A RESULT of civilization, of increased population and cultivation, is a corresponding decrease of unoccupied land and of animals who live in the wilds and jungle. Every book of travel and exploration in Africa tells the same tale, and now Mr. C. E. M. Russell, in *Bullet and Shot in Indian Forest, Plain, and Hill* (Thacker & Co.), repeats the story with respect to Asia. The larger the game the sooner it disappears, extinction being unduly hastened by want of proper protection. The author considers that more damage is done by natives who, in parts of India, on payment of a nominal licence, may shoot when and where they please, irrespective of age, sex, or season, than by vermin. He is probably right, at any rate in Southern India, where he is most at home; but no doubt packs of wild dogs, wolves, and greater carnivorous beasts destroy much game, though when left to themselves they merely maintain the balance of nature. As a restriction Mr. Russell proposes "the imposition of gun and game licences, priced sufficiently high to prevent the majority of these poachers from incurring the expense of so large an outlay. In Mysore, as I have elsewhere stated, there is nothing to prevent any one from entering even the State forests (except during the fire season) for the purpose of shooting; and the ridiculous cost of a gun licence (about fourpence), and the absence of any game regulations, enable the poacher to make a very comfortable living at the cost of very little exertion, and at an outlay in cash of almost nil."

The best part of the book is naturally that which deals with Mysore and its game, the rest being for the most part information gathered from various sources about parts of the country which the author has not seen. This has occasionally led to error, but on the whole the compilation is sound. Mr. Russell seems to be hardly up to date in the matter of a battery for sporting purposes; he inclines too much to unnecessarily large-bore rifles. Recent experience has shown that the most formidable

animals may be killed with equal, if not greater, certainty if small bores with suitable bullets propelled with great velocity take the place of ponderous 4-bores; while for deer the various Express rifles may with advantage be superseded by Lee-Metfords or Mannlachers. The volume may be commended as containing some well-told stories of sport and much advice from which beginners in Indian shooting may profit; they are not likely to be unduly censorious as to its shortcomings from a literary point of view, an attitude which we propose to imitate.

The flood of angling books seems likely to continue so long as enthusiastic fishermen practise their engrossing art; but *Fisherman's Luck, and some other Uncertain Things*, by Henry Van Dyke (Sampson Low & Co.), is not a treatise on the art of angling like the excellent works which Sir E. Grey and Sir H. Maxwell gave last year to fishermen. It consists of reminiscences and associations connected with the art, and mostly relating to American angling. The author says :

"When I talk to you of fisherman's luck, I do not forget that there are deeper things behind it.... And I suppose that their meaning is that we should learn by all the uncertainties of our life, even the smallest, how to be brave and steady and temperate and hopeful, whatever comes, because we believe that behind it all there lies a purpose of good, and over it all there watches a providence of blessing."

The twelve essays which make up the volume are therefore to a certain extent didactic and moral. These lessons are, it is true, somewhat superficial and threadbare, but the angler can judiciously skip them and strike the river, as it were, at another bend. Mr. Van Dyke is at his best when he treats of the birds, and flowers, and trees of the riverside. He possesses a keen eye for the beauties of river scenery, and a good many pleasant illustrations enhance the charms of the book. It may safely be said that the wandering angler who puts it into his pocket to peruse at luncheon time and during that sunny hour or two afterwards when trout seldom rise will, without being unduly excited, be agreeably pleased with the sentiments of his angling brother by the Restigouche or Saguenay. Fishermen are much the same all the world over, and as with fishing, so with fishing literature; it never comes amiss to them. One of the stories of the book, entitled 'A Fatal Success,' may be a warning to young newly married fishermen. Such a one found that his bride hated fishing. But he persevered in teaching and encouraging her. "It has been rather difficult," he confesses. "She is 'dour' in rising. But she's beginning to take notice of the fly now. Give me another season." At its expiration she had caught a weighty trout and was so elated that she was constantly fishing, until the unhappy husband had no rest or peace, and remarked :

"Do you know I'm not quite so sure as I used to be that fishing is the best of all sports. I sometimes think of giving it up and going in for croquet."

Another chapter supplies the titles, with a little account of them, of a good many of the most characteristic books which treat of the pleasures of fishing; but literary criticism is scarcely Mr. Van Dyke's forte. On the other hand, his essay on Norwegian fishing and scenery is excellent. The Loenvand Lake greatly takes his fancy :—

"At the head of the lake we find ourselves in an enormous amphitheatre of mountains. Glaciers are peering down upon us. Snowfields glare at us with glistening eyes. Black crags seem to bend over us with an eternal frown. Streamers of foam float from the forehead of the hills and the lips of the dark ravines. But there is a little river of cold pure water flowing from one of the rivers of ice, and a pleasant shelter of young trees and bushes growing among the débris of shattered rocks; and there we build our camp-fire."

Another well-written study is on a lazy American brook, which simply beautifies its banks, but performs no work for the miller. A certain "Lady Greygown" accompanies Mr. Van Dyke

on his fishing excursions. We may charitably hope that she is his wife. At all events, she is a creation which reminds the readers too much of a "Queen Titania" in a well-known work of fiction. For the rest, it is only natural that Americanisms should here and there crop out, such as the Transatlantic use of the word "just," which seems to have been originally imported from Scotland. There is nothing new in Mr. Van Dyke's book. It is hardly literature, but belongs to that enormous fringe which hangs from and borders literature. Still it shows how eagerly America has accepted our contemplative man's sport, how similar is the angler's character in every land, and it warns the fishing authorities of Canada and the States to be careful not to tolerate water pollution, excessive drainage, and ill-timed capture of fish. The present condition of many of our rivers should act as a striking object-lesson on these points to our kinsmen in the New World.

Thoughts on Hunting, by Peter Beckford (Methuen & Co.), is an old friend in a new volume, well printed, well got up from title-page to index, well and not too sparingly illustrated. The work, of course, is an accepted classic, having gone through several editions in 1781, 1782, 1796, 1810, 1820 (as is to be inferred from a date in the present issue), 1840 (with a chapter on coursing), 1879, and 1881 (published by Toovey). One would have been glad to know for what particular reason a new edition seemed to be called for just now. In the absence of enlightenment from the publishers, the reader is obliged to conclude that the explanation is to be found in an introduction and a number of instructive notes supplied by Mr. J. Otho Paget, and in some score, more or less, of new and interesting illustrations, reproducing a portrait of Peter Beckford, which forms the frontispiece, various paintings and photographs, and eight drawings furnished by Mr. J. H. Jalland. The "Thoughts," it may be remarked, for the sake of anybody who is unacquainted with the fact, are conveyed by means of four-and-twenty letters addressed to a real or hypothetical friend, and these letters should be perused by everybody who takes any sort of interest, whether practical or merely academical, in the subject of hunting, especially fox-hunting. Though, from the nature of the case, the writer deals mainly in technical details, so that he does not shrink from submitting a long list of names suitable for hounds, but does not include among them so excellent an appellation as Sotheby, the style is so lively that it will carry along such readers even as have little or no regard for the matter in hand. There is a liberal intersplicing of amusing anecdotes and of quotations from Somerville, whose poem called "The Chase," though reprinted not so very long ago, appears to have been swamped by a flood of more modern, but very inferior, poetical effusions. One of the neatest anecdotes is the following, referring to the hunting king Louis XV. and the flute-playing King of Prussia:—

"A German, last war, meeting a Frenchman, asked him very impertinently, 'Si son maître chassait toujours?' 'Oui, oui,' replied the other, 'il ne joue jamais de la flûte'!"

A retort well worthy of a Frenchman at a time when the French were still both witty and polite. It would be blasphemy, whether flat or round, to differ from the author of the "Thoughts" on any point of hunting, of course, but it may be permissible to dissent from a general remark of his. When he says, at p. 14 of the present edition, "Dogs are naturally cleanly animals," one is disposed very strongly to dispute the statement, both from one's own experience and from recollection of what has been said from the time of Homer, and probably much longer, about the "shamelessness" of the dog. And now, if there should be anybody so ignorant as not to know who the Peter Beckford of the "Thoughts" might have boasted

himself to be, or so benighted as not to have heard whether there were any such Peter Beckford at all, it will suffice, perhaps, to say that he was a cousin of "Vathek" Beckford, whom some folk, not given to hunting, may be pleased to consider the more famous of the two; that he was a well-endowed country gentleman, of Stapleton or Steepleton or Steepleton-Iwerne, Dorset, hard by Cranbourn Chase; that he married Louisa, daughter of Lord Rivers, in 1773; that he was born in 1740 and died at the age of seventy; and that his "son became the third Lord Rivers by a special Act of Parliament, and his great-granddaughter married the ninth Duke of Leeds." And so, as Mr. Otho Paget pertinently observes, "the present Master of the Bedale is the direct descendant of the man whose name all fox-hunters honour."

We have received from Paris two volumes upon sport of a somewhat similar description, of which the more beautiful is not valuable, and the more ugly is useful. The pretty book is the second volume of *Le Sport en France et à l'Etranger*, by Baron de Vaux, published by Rothschild, of Paris, which is, in fact, an album of portraits of riding celebrities, with ill-executed memoirs. We notice in the life of Mrs. Asquith that her husband is described as being now Under-Secretary of State in the Home Department, and that she is a lady who in early life published a considerable number of extremely successful novels. It is pretty easy to see how the second confusion has arisen; but both statements make us feel that this book has at least one merit as compared with some others of its class, namely, that the lives are not written by the people themselves. The article on the Duke of Beaufort mentions the late Duke as though still living; and the article on the present Duke, his son, has prefixed to it a portrait, given as his, which is in fact that of the late Duke of Westminster. There is also an extraordinary mistake with regard to the height, in French measurement, of the present Duke of Beaufort. The portrait of Sir George Wombwell appears to be from a very ancient photograph, and the statement that he is considerably over fifty is a singular one to appear within a few lines of the more accurate statement that he had two horses shot under him at Balaclava. The other volume is of a very different kind. It is the second issue of *L'Almanach des Sports*, edited by M. Maurice Leudet of the *Figaro*, being that for the present year, and is published at Paris by the Société d'Editions Littéraires et Artistiques. It contains an almanac, a sound preface by the editor upon sports in general, articles illustrated by excellent little cuts of the leading sporting events of France in the past year, and the programme of such events, so far as it is known in advance, for the present year. In this year, indeed, the coming of the Exhibition makes it easy to foresee a good deal of the Parisian sport of 1900, as the lists of prizes have been already published. Automobilism plays, of course, a great part in M. Leudet's book, as it enjoys in France a popularity which it has certainly not attained in England. One reason, perhaps, is that the laws in England protect against excessive speed on the part of automobiles that general public which in France has no such safeguard. The practice of racing against express trains, from one end of France to another, passing at the rate of thirty or forty miles an hour through villages where one is not allowed to drive at the rate of eight miles an hour, is evidence of the extraordinary situation of affairs which we describe.

A curious feature in M. Leudet's present volume is to be found in the cuts of French wrestlers. Their weight suggests a flabbiness, which is found, indeed, in the great wrestlers of China and Japan, but which does not strike us as appropriate. Coming to the equitation part of the volume, we note some most remarkable photographs of jumping. There is a series of

cuts of jumping by Lieut. Napoléon Murat, which not only shows success and how it is attained, but also failure in circumstances where the avoidance of loss of life appears miraculous. The photographs of a duel are less interesting, because the duel which they represent is one of those show duels between masters which are mere advertisements; on the whole, the horses come better out of the instantaneous photographs than the men, who, handsome enough when clothed, are not beautiful as photographed "in the buff." M. Leudet's photographs of rowing and sculling are not happy. Unfortunately he appears to have been contented with photographing most inferior scullers and a thoroughly bad "pair," as far as the photographs showing movement go. There is one photograph of a "pair" resting, which represents a good pair, but then about this there is no interest and no difficulty. There are a few notes in the volume upon Henley and some other international events. The scale of the photographs and the paper upon which they are executed prevent the reproductions of the Henley photographs from being successful. We are sorry to find bullfights figuring as largely as they do in M. Leudet's volume; but, of course, this is no fault of his.

In "The Sports Library" (Fisher Unwin) we have received *Football, Hockey, and Lacrosse*. The introductions to these games are by competent performers, but surely less than two hundred pages is not enough for a discussion which is to be of real value, and calculated to help crude players and increase the judgment of the expert. Modern football is highly elaborated, and the best hands often miss the best chances.

Social Chess (Cox), by Mr. J. Mason, is a collection of brilliant games, not usually extending beyond twenty-five moves, annotated in simple fashion. The volume is just the thing to amuse young players and amateurs, for there are some capital specimens of Morphy, Mr. Lasker, and other masters. The use of exclamation marks after moves is much overdone, and the sort of easy humour which says that an imminent mate is "a 'soothing' announcement!" and thinks it necessary to mark the irony by inverted commas, is decidedly irritating. The introduction is rather casual, and wrong in calling Oliver Wendell Holmes "a close thinker." He is not so in the piece quoted, or elsewhere usually, to our thinking. Still, we must not grumble at a really handy collection in a light form in this age of heavy and lengthy books.

AMERICAN FICTION.

A COMPARATIVELY short and amusing story of life in the United States is to be found in *The Cumbric Mask*, by Mr. Robert W. Chambers (Macmillan & Co.); and it is one for which the reader of current fiction may be grateful at a time when the quality of recent publications in this department of literature is unduly meagre. It is a story of commercial cunning and shortsighted villainy ultimately defeated by the hero, who is rewarded with the love of a very tolerable heroine. The plot is sufficiently original and attractive to be spoilt by a summary of its leading features, and there is no reason to anticipate the interest which the reader may reasonably feel in perusing the book for the first time. It suffices to say that the story is the best we recollect of Mr. Chambers's. The volume is printed in England, but contains a singular paragraph without a full stop; the last word of it completes the last line of a page and ends with a comma, and the first line of the next page begins a new paragraph. It should be added that there are some clever lines of original verse, both at the commencement and the end.

By Order of the Company (Constable & Co.) is a new novel by Mary Johnston, who is described on the title-page as the author of "The

'Old Dominion.' But is not 'The Old Dominion' another name for a novel by Miss Johnston which was published in 1898, and was entitled 'The Prisoners of Hope: a Tale of Colonial Virginia'? If so, it is unfair to the bibliographer to worry him with a foolish conundrum. On the fly-leaf of this book 'The Old Dominion' is said to be in its second edition. Yet a new edition of any book should not bear a new title-page. Should the publishers be responsible for the change which appears to have been made, they have certainly done a disservice to Miss Johnston. The novel styled 'The Prisoners of Hope' is surely from the same pen as the one before us. The writing has the like character; some of the personages in both differ chiefly in their names, and the two villains are akin, Sir Charles Carew in the first work being a reprobate who enjoyed the favour of Charles II., and Lord Carnal in the second being one of the titled scoundrels who basked in the favour of James I. In both works there is much picturesque writing, and Miss Johnston often displays dramatic power. Her villains would be more natural if they were less wicked and had fewer hairbreadth escapes. Miss Johnston would do well to take to heart Dryden's remark in his preface to 'Troilus and Cressida' that to make a man "more a villain than he has just reason to be is to make an effect which is stronger than the cause." The hero, Capt. Percy, is supposed to be a good and brave man, and the heroine, Lady Jocelyn Leigh, is a beautiful woman; but both are sometimes made to conduct themselves in a fashion which it would be difficult, if not impossible to parallel in real life. Nevertheless, the story can be read with interest, as it abounds in breathless situations. Miss Johnston has a liking for deadly combats, and she describes them with as much gusto as Dugald Dalgetty could have shown. Boys ought to delight in her stories. She has read much about her subject, and the slips are few. She is mistaken, however, in writing on p. 85 that "caudle" is given to a bride and bridegroom on the wedding night; several months should elapse before one of the two is expected to drink that decoction. Sir George Yeardley, Governor of Virginia, would not have used the modern American newspaper word "placated," as he is made to do on p. 129; while, should Miss Johnston desire to use the phrase *à outrance* again, she ought to avoid writing it, as she does more than once in this book, "à l'outrance."

Cinder-Path Tales, by William Lindsey (Grant Richards), is the name of a volume of capital sporting stories. The collection also bears the title on each alternate page of 'At Start and Finish,' which equally well expresses the meaning of the volume. Each item in the usual programme of athletic sports is duly made the subject of a separate story, with some element of romance or other kindred topic to lighten the narrative. Added to these are similar accounts relating to the famous match in London on July 22nd of last year, between the selected teams of Harvard and Yale and of Oxford and Cambridge, and to a boxing competition and a football match. Nearly all the narratives are given as the experiences of an English gentleman-trainer in the United States, and all show that the writer is no unskilled hand in the use of a pen which is more accustomed to American than English ink. A distinctively American phrase is not uncommon, such as "the expedient of having Mud [a terrier] guard his sweater." It would have been easy to produce common and uninteresting literature of this type, but the literary work contained in the volume is good, and in places not a little remarkable. The contributions to the volume are nine in number, and seem to have been well selected for the purpose of forming a volume of essays and stories on athletic exercise. We should like to have dealt with some of them in detail.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

LORD ROBERTS has written his own life, and Mr. Horace Groser, in a little volume entitled *Field-Marshal Lord Roberts*, and published by Mr. Andrew Melrose, has not improved on it; but no doubt his book, from its cheapness, may be bought by some who cannot afford a larger outlay. It is a mere war record, and contains no account of Lord Roberts's policy in respect to the North-West Frontier of India, of his remarkable speech in the House of Lords, or of his writings on the reorganization of the British army, which are likely to be much referred to if, as we anticipate, Lord Roberts should be the next Commander-in-Chief.

WE have received from Messrs. Black *Who's Who at the War*, being a little volume containing biographies of many of those employed in the British army in South Africa as well as on the other side. The endeavour to make the book thoroughly fresh has led to the names being included of some who have not yet started; but an accuracy which has been fairly maintained as regards the British forces is not so noticeable in the case of our opponents. The French officer who is with the Boers is described as "Chief of the General Staff in the Boer Army," the fact being that the Boers have refused to give him any command or consult him in any way whatever and that he has only been allowed to be present as a spectator. The sailors present with the British army have not been so well treated as the soldiers. We have looked in vain in the list for the names of some of the most distinguished among them.

MR. J. W. CLARK, the popular Registrar of the University, has published *Old Friends at Cambridge and Elsewhere* (Macmillan & Co.), a volume which raises expectations it does not satisfy. Instead of favouring the world with the recollections of one who has possibly a greater knowledge of the last half-century of life at Cambridge than any one else, he has reprinted several biographical articles from periodicals. The best of these is the one on Thirlwall, although the writer, it would seem, never saw the bishop. That on Whewell, on the other hand, of whom he must have seen much, is disappointing. There is an excellent sketch of his predecessor, Luard.

The Literary Year-Book for 1900 (George Allen) is edited by Herbert Morrah, and shows a great improvement on previous issues. It is now accurate enough to be of some service. The list of important books of the year of all sorts was no doubt a difficult thing to do; still we prefer it to the selected reviews of a few books by more or less notable critics which have taken its place. The remarks on the sale and price of the novel hardly suggest an expert. We notice that some authors and artists credit themselves with things still unpublished, a practice which is likely to cause confusion.

THE Government Printer at Wellington issues *Statistics of the Colony of New Zealand for 1898*, with statistics of the local governing bodies for the year ended March 31st, 1899, compiled in the office of the Registrar-General of the colony.

THE Government Printer at Melbourne, and in London Messrs. Kegan Paul & Co., publish the second section of the *Victorian Year-Book, 1895-8*, dealing with 'Finance and Accumulation.' It is by Mr. J. J. Fenton, the Assistant Government Statist, and gives a large amount of information of value to bankers and investors, as to which, however, we have to say that, it being indexed by paragraphs instead of by pages, we naturally assumed that the paragraphs corresponded to the paragraphs in the previous issues; but on consulting the volume for 1894, published in 1895, we find that the paragraphs do not correspond. Where this is the case it is better to index by pages, as there are drawbacks to the paragraph system, and no

advantage that we can see unless the paragraphs correspond.

THAT considerable undertaking *The World's Best Orations*, to be published by Kaiser, of St. Louis and Chicago, in ten volumes, is nearing completion, for we have now before us the ninth. It contains, among other speakers, Sir Walter Raleigh, represented by the extraordinarily bad speech which he delivered on the scaffold; Robespierre, represented with undue profusion by seven examples; Sheil, Algernon Sidney, Spurgeon, Straford, Jeremy Taylor, and Thiers. Charles Sumner is here with two fairly long pieces, and his position among the statesmen of North America justifies the inclusion of his name. He had many of the elements of greatness; but although no one more suggested the orator in private life, and although he had magnificent presence, great reading, and powerful intellect, his speaking represents almost at its worst the oratory of the United States. The specimens here chosen include such flowers as these:

"The Senator has gone on to infuse into his speech the venom which has been sweltering for months.... Again the Senator has switched his tongue, and again he fills the Chamber with its offensive odor."

THERE are books concerning which the reader inevitably asks himself, first, why they were ever written, and, secondly, how, being written, they ever found a publisher, and *Der Pessimist*, by Augsar Albig, 2 vols. (Freiburg, Herder), must be placed in this category. Nor has it even the condoning excuse of being a first attempt. Indeed, it is a distinct falling-off, for in 'Moribus Paternis'—although it, too, was a controversial novel—there were at least some happy sketches of modern Hamburg society, with its commercial materialism, its conceited provincialism, its burgher integrity and narrowness of intellectual vision. 'Der Pessimist' on the other hand, is weak in character-drawing, in plot, and in composition. Augsar Albig is a sort of Catholic Miss Yonge, for it is Roman Catholicism that is here presented and propagated. The title is most misleading, for the author knows nothing, and cares less, concerning the theories of pessimist philosophers past or present. His pessimist is a childish caricature who flaunts the world-weariness of the schoolboy, and whose knowledge of life is crude and vague.

EDMONDO DE AMICIS, relying upon the popularity his easy, flowing, garrulous writings enjoy among his compatriots, has issued a volume somewhat misleadingly called *Memorie* (Milan, Treves). This is no autobiography, but merely a collection of sketches, most of them already printed, recalling voyages he has taken, people he has known or seen, and a few rather trivial youthful reminiscences. All are told in that ample, verbose style peculiar to this writer—a style that is even to monotony, and that curiously lacks light and shade, proportion and perspective. The impotent, the trivial, are all treated in exactly the same manner, until at last, lulled to rest by the regularity that grows to be tedious, we read on, as it were, mechanically—we no longer take in the sense of the words that follow each other with such rhythmic placidity. So, too, the author's pathos is apt to sound like empty rhetoric; his expressions, even of the profoundest grief, do not carry conviction. This is noteworthy in the essay here reprinted that he devoted to the memory of his only son a few years ago. Even here, like true Italian, he must talk to the gallery, he must pose, he stands aside to watch the effect of his sobs upon his auditors. How different, for example, in its simple recital, the account Pierre Loti gives in his childhood's memories of the deathbed of Tante Claire! In merely reading it we feel as though committing a sacrilegious act, while at De Amicis's grief we are invited to assist as it were at a spectacle. Wedoubt whether 'Memorie,' although in its native land it has already attained the dignity of a third edition, will help to

enhance its author's fame outside the borders of Italy.

MR. A. HUMPHREYS has printed an "authorised edition"—no *Times* report therefore—of Lord Rosebery's speech on Cromwell. It is said on the fly-leaf to be "published in self defence."

We have received a number of "Beacon Biographies" of well-known Americans, which, although they bear the imprint of Messrs. Kegan Paul & Co., are obviously of Transatlantic manufacture. They are edited by Mr. de Wolfe Howe, who has written the memoir of Phillips Brooks. The others are Daniel Webster, by Mr. Norman Hapgood; J. R. Lowell, by Mr. E. E. Hale, jun.; David G. Farragut, by Mr. J. Barnes; and Robert E. Lee, by Mr. W. P. Trent. They are satisfactory little books.

The best, in our opinion, of books of reference of its kind, *Kelly's Handbook to the Titled, Landed, and Official Classes*, published by Kelly's Directories, Limited, and by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co., reaches us for 1900. During the last year's use of this volume we have detected no inaccuracies.

MR. LATHBURY's new paper the *Pilot* follows rather the model of the *Spectator* than of the *Guardian*. Ecclesiastical news, which is such a feature in the latter journal, is excluded, and the political intelligence is confined to an account of the proceedings in Parliament. The tone throughout the paper is, as was to be expected, sober and judicious, but the most notable thing in the number is a long criticism of Mr. Phillips's drama by Canon Ainger.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Adderley (J.), The Epistle of St. James, cr. 8vo. 2/6
Bourdillon (F.), Handbooks, cr. 8vo. 2/6
Drummond (J.), The Epistles to the Thessalonians, Corinthians, Galatians, Romans, and Philippians, 8vo. 7/5
Gore (C.), St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans, Vol. 2, 3/6
Hall (Bishop A. C. A.), Confirmation, cr. 8vo. 5/-
Little (W. J. Knox), A Manual of Devotion for Lent, 6/-
Religion that will Wear, cr. 8vo. 2/6

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Brinton (S.), The Renaissance in Italian Art (Sculpture and Painting), Part 3, cr. 8vo. 6/- net.
Elworthy (F. T.), Horns of Honour, and other Studies in the By-Ways of Archaeology, 8vo. 10/- net.
Mowat (W. and A.), A Treatise on Stairbuilding and Hand-railing, folio, 25/- net.

Poetry.

Bentley (H. C.), Poems, 8vo. 5/- net.
Hopper (N.), Songs of the Morning, cr. 8vo. 3/6 net.

Philosophy.

Gurnhill (J.), The Morals of Suicide, cr. 8vo. 6/-
History and Biography.

Abbott (E.), A History of Greece, Part 3, cr. 8vo. 10/-
Duff (Sir M. E. Grant), Notes from Diary, 1886-88, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 18/-

Ori (P.), Modern Italy, 1748-1898, cr. 8vo. 5/-
Geography and Travel.

Edwards (N.), The Transvaal in War and Peace, 7/6 net.
Wheeler (Mrs. C. H.), Missions in Eden, cr. 8vo. 3/6

Philology.

Aeschylus, Septem contra Thebas, ed. by F. G. Plaistow, 5/6
Demosthenes on the Peace, Second Philippic, on the Chersonesus, and Third Philippic, ed. by J. E. Sandys, 5/-
Hauff (W.), Der Scheik von Alessandria und seine Sklaven, edited by W. Rippmann, 12mo. 2/6

Science.

Atkin (W. A.), The Voice, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Collins (H. D.) and Rockwell (W. H.), Physiology, 7/6 net.
Parker (T. J. and W. N.), An Elementary Course of Practical Zoology, cr. 8vo. 10/-

Simpson (F. O.), The Pathological Statistics of Insanity, cr. 8vo. 10/- net.

General Literature.

Buchanan (R.), Andromeda, an Idyll of the Great River, 6/-
Clergy List, 1900, 8vo. 12/-

Cobb (T. M.), Scruples, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Cobban (J. M.), Cease Fire!, cr. 8vo. 3/6

Costerton-Wilkinson (H.), A Host of Thorns, cr. 8vo. 3/6
D'Artagnan (Monsieur), Memoirs, translated by Ralph Nevill:

Part 3, The Captain, roy. 8vo. 15/-

Elliot (A.), A Martial Maid, cr. 8vo. 6/-
From the Book Beautiful, cr. 8vo. 3/6

Hardy (E. J.), Mr. Thomas Atkins, cr. 8vo. 6/-
Kelly's London Suburban Directory, 1900, Imp. 8vo. 26/-
Laycock (S.), Collected Writings, cr. 8vo. 3/6

Marston (B.), Of the House of Chloe, cr. 8vo. 4/- net.
Mr. Facey Romford's Hounds, 2 vols. 21/- net. (Sets only.)

Primm (P.), Maithland of Cortezia, cr. 8vo. 6/-
Puxley (F. L.), Maithland of Cortezia, cr. 8vo. 6/-

Richings (E.), Sir Walter's Wife, cr. 8vo. 6/-
Shipton (H.), The Strong God Circumstance, cr. 8vo. 6/-
Smith (M. C.), Mary Paget, cr. 8vo. 6/-
Sterne (F. O.), Tristram Shandy and A Sentimental Journey, 2 vols. 8vo. 7/-

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LOVE'S IMMORTALITY.

STRATO.

(From the 'Palatine Anthology,' XIII. 243.)

How can he, who with his dear
Makes continual sojourn here,
Tell the instant point of time
When she passes from her prime ?

How can she, who yesternight
Was his very heart's delight,
Satisfy him less to-day,
Less to-morrow, less for aye ?

ALFRED PERCEVAL GRAVES.

MISS MARIE CORELLI AND 'LITERARY LONDON.'

In the new edition of 'Men of the Time' it is stated that a little book of mine, 'Literary London,' published in 1898, led to a libel action by Miss Marie Corelli, "which was only averted on Mr. Ryan apologizing for his critical remarks." I shall be glad if you give me the opportunity of saying that there is no truth in that statement. I have neither withdrawn nor apologized for anything in 'Literary London,' and no libel action has been brought against me.

W. P. RYAN.

THE SPRING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO. announce in their "Library of English Classics": Boswell's Johnson; Carlyle's French Revolution; Fielding's Tom Jones.—Notes on the War to the Relief of Ladysmith, by the Military Expert of the Daily News.—Highways and Byways in Normandy, by P. Dearmer, illustrated by J. Penell, A History of Greece, by J. B. Bury,—Euripides, Andromache, edited by A. R. F. Hyslop,—Greek Melic Poets, by H. W. Smyth,

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SALE.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold the following books and MSS. last week: Bible, 1644, embroidered silver-thread binding, probably for Prince Charles, afterwards King Charles II., 84l. Les Nobles Prouesses de Baudoin, Conte de Flandres, Lyon, C. Nourry, 1509, 16l. Augustine, La Cité de Dieu, en Français par Raoul de Praelles, MS. on vellum, Sæc. XIV., 49l. Biblia Sacra, MS. on vellum (Anglo-Norman), Sæc. XIV., 30l. Ex-Libris (580), English and Foreign, 17l. 10s. Burns's Poems, uncut, Edinburgh, 1787, 22l. 15s. Cocker's Arithmetic, 1678, 11l. 10s. Bucaniers of America, 4 parts, large paper, 1684, 16l. Godefroy de Bouillon, Faits et Gestes, Paris, J. Bonfons, s.d., 29l. Chaucer's Works, by Stow, 1561, 12l. 18s. An Ancient "Clog," or Perpetual Almanac of Crab-apple Wood, 30l. Firdusi, Shah Nahmeh, 52 drawings, 15l. Galerie de Rubens, coloured, Paris, 1809, 22l. 10s. Gould's Trochilidae, 20l. The Humorist, coloured plates by Cruikshank, 1819-22, 16l. Reid's Cruikshank Catalogue, 1871, 14l. Thackeray on Cruikshank, extra illustrated, 13l. 10s. Westmacott's The English Spy, 1825-6, 22l. Hakluyt Society Publications, 104 vols., 41l. Horae B.V.M., illuminated, 13 miniatures, Sæc. XV., 100l. Horae ad Usum Bisuntinum, MS. on vellum, 16 miniatures, Sæc. XV., 128l.; another, Northern French, 49l.; another, French, 63l. Gould's Birds of Australia, 113l.; Birds of New Guinea, 32l. Johnson's English Dictionary, first edition, uncut, 1755, 16l. 10s. Henley and Stevenson's Beau Austin, presentation copy, 1884, 19l. 10s. Horae on vellum, fifteenth century, 56l. Horae B.V.M., printed upon vellum, illuminated, Paris, Veuve Godard, 1523, 15l. 5s. Horae on vellum, MS., fifteenth century, formerly belonging to the Earls of Kildare, 290l. Hubbard's Present State of New England, map, Lond., 20l. Rudyard Kipling, United Services College Chronicle, Nos. 4 to 9, 1881-2, 29l. Moore's Irish Melodies, illustrated by Macleish, with original pencil drawings by the artist, 28l. Missale Romanum, Italian MS., with full-page miniature of the Crucifixion, &c., fifteenth century, 20l. Nash's History of Worcestershire, the author's own copy, extra illustrated with drawings and engravings, 68l. Kelmscott Press Publications: Glittering Plain, 29l.; Biblia Incentium, 27l.; Keats, 26l. 10s.; Shelley, 26l.; Earthly Paradise, 24l.; Sigurd, 23l. 10s.; Poems by the Way, printed upon vellum, 44l.; Chaucer, 66l. Kipling, Schoolboy Lyrics, 1881, 41l.; Echoes, 1884, 18l. 10s. Molière, L'Estrourdy, first edition, 1663, 12l. 10s.; Les Femmes Scavantes, 1673, 13l. Officium B.V.M., MS. on vellum, Sæc. XV., 17l. 10s. Postes de France, 1781, Marie Antoinette's copy, 12l.

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FRENCH AID TO AMERICA IN THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE.

Paris, February, 1900.

In Mr. Paul Leicester Ford's edition of Jefferson's works, now in course of publication by Messrs. Putnam, there is an expression by that statesman of his belief that but for the assistance and alliance of France there would have been a reconciliation between England and the colonies. Although American historians generally have been too patriotic to see this, and French historians too polite to press it, it has been implied in the keen interest shown in both countries in the origin and development of the assistance and alliance. The literature of the subject will all have to be revised by the light of a document hitherto unknown which I now send to the *Athenæum*. It is sent me by Mr. George Clinton Genet, a barrister of New York, who found it among the papers of his father, the famous envoy of France to America in 1793. This young minister was instructed to reclaim for the French people the credit accorded to Louis XVI. for the aid rendered America, and no doubt it was to support this contention that two memorials written by Beaumarchais were given to him. One of these Mr. Genet translated for the *Magazine of American History* in 1878, but it received little notice, and its full significance only appears beside the other, which here first comes to light. I am indebted to Mr. Genet for the French text of both documents. To appreciate their historical importance it is necessary to bear in mind the principal events that led to the situation to which they relate.

In 1775-6 Beaumarchais, under his aspect of a literary lion, concealed his function in London as an agent of Vergennes. The American agent was Arthur Lee, one of whose brothers was an alderman of London, and two in the American Congress : they belonged to the great Virginian family, and were all among the earliest enthusiasts of independence. Instructed by Vergennes, Beaumarchais sought out Arthur Lee and told him that France wished to aid the Americans secretly. He reported to the king that an authoritative American said :—

"We offer France as the price of her secret aid a secret commercial treaty by which, for a certain number of years after the peace, there will pass to her all the advantages with which we have for a century enriched England, and in addition a guarantee of her possessions to the extent of our forces."

This was addressed "to the king alone" in a letter of February 27th, 1776, in which Beaumarchais dwelt on the perils of the French American possessions should the Americans succumb. The king had no animosity towards

England, and had received such suggestions coldly, but he was presently excited by information received from his ambassador in England, De Guines, of an important project to get up a war with France as a means of terminating the trouble in America. While Louis XVI. was in this panic, a scheme was planned for engaging the Americans in their struggle beyond retreat and keeping British forces beyond the Atlantic, without embroiling the king with George III. The assistance was to be under the guise of a commercial company, and Beaumarchais presented this plan to the king in writing. It is this document, also "au roi seul," which was translated by Mr. Genet for the *Magazine of American History* in 1878, and I cite only the main points :—

"The succour wisely administered will serve less to terminate the war between America and England than to feed and continue it."

"The constant view of the affair in which the mass of Congress should be kept is the certainty that your Majesty is unwilling to enter in any way into the affair, but that a company is very generally about to turn over a certain sum to the prudent management of a faithful agent to give successive aids to the Americans by the shortest route and the surest means of return in tobacco. Secrecy will be the soul of all the rest."

"Your Majesty will begin by placing a million at the disposition of your agent, who will be named Rodrique Hortalez & Co."

"One half of this million.....will be promptly sent there. Upon that part of the million no benefit can be obtained except the return of it in Virginia tobacco, which Congress must furnish to the Maison Hortalez."

"Rodrique Hortalez counts on employing the second half of the million confided to him in the purchase of gunpowder. But instead of buying that powder.....at the market price of 20 or 30 sols tournois the pound.....the whole point of our operations consists in the hope of Rodrique Hortalez to buy very secretly, by the good will of your Majesty, from the Registers of your powder and saltpetre all the gunpowder required at from four to six sols.....which sent to America at the price of twenty sols the pound would bring Congress in debt to Hortalez two millions tournois, the returns of which, as well as of the money (piastres) sent, in the form of tobacco, sold.....to the farmers-general, will soon enable the Maison Hortalez to account for 2,500,000 livres with the real owner of the funds, who is your Majesty. Besides this it will account for the gain from the sale of tobacco.....These sums will then make Hortalez agent and possessor of an effective sum of three millions, with which it can renew the operation and throw at once 1,500,000 livres in gold over the American paper money, and 6,000,000 quintals of powder into their guns and mortars."

Beaumarchais goes on ciphering to show that the king's one million will increase in triple progression, enabling him to continually increase his aid to the Americans without drawing on the treasury, and even the original million, he suggests, might be recovered by a duty on imported carriages and horses :—

"The adoption of this idea, in procuring for your Majesty the sweet pleasure of aiding the Americans solely with money drawn from England, has something spicy in it, which it seems well to sow like flowers on the dry soil of examining the commercial outlays, returns, and profits of Hortalez, of which your Majesty will be the sole proprietor."

This memorial is not dated, but was certainly written between February and May, 1776. On May 2nd the king signed an order for the million, and gave Vergennes a note to be written by the minister's son, aged fifteen, to Beaumarchais :—

"Beaumarchais emploira M. Montaudouin à transmettre aux Américains les fonds.....qu'il plaira à Sa Majesté d'affecter à leur bénéfice." Montaudouin Frères were merchants at Nantes. The king had already secured the co-operation of his uncle, the King of Spain, and on May 3rd, Vergennes wrote to the Spanish Ambassador that the Government would not appear at all in the matter ; all would be done under the name of a commercial company directed by an agent colouring his zeal with the "specious motive" of a mercantile desire to "attract to his house American custom when the colonies

should become independent." On June 10th Beaumarchais gave a receipt for the French million, and, with promise of the Spanish million also (received August 11th), hurried to London to arrange details with Arthur Lee. Lee sent a special messenger (Thomas Story) to the Congressional Committee in Philadelphia, who informed them (October 1st) that

"Vergennes had sent a gentleman to Arthur Lee to inform him that the French Court could not think of entering into a war with England, but they would assist America by sending from Holland this fall 200,000. sterling worth of arms to St. Eustache, Martinique, or Cape François."

The name of Hortalez was given, but nothing was said about tobacco, and Lee stated that it was on a second visit that Beaumarchais

"desired me to request that a small quantity of tobacco or some other production might be sent to the Cape to give it the air of a mercantile transaction, repeating over and over again that it was for a cover only, and not for payment, as the remittance was gratuitous."

In fact, had it been a real commercial transaction, Lee could not have acted, and Beaumarchais was eager.

Meanwhile Congress, ignorant of these negotiations, sent Silas Deane as "Commercial Agent" to purchase ammunition and other things in Paris. He arrived there about the middle of July. Vergennes sent him to Beaumarchais (July 17th), and from this moment Beaumarchais would have nothing to do with Arthur Lee. The facile character and impudent condition of Deane personally exactly suited Beaumarchais's purpose of making a fortune out of the whole business at once. Repudiating what he said to Lee, he made formal contracts with Deane for ships (at America's risk) and officers (mostly adventurers). Deane, who had no authority to make such contracts, wrote to Congress, November 29th, 1776, concerning three shiploads just sent, that the supplies had been advanced out of Beaumarchais's own pocket, and he ought to be immediately compensated.

Congress having constituted for Paris a commission of three equal members — Franklin, Deane, and Arthur Lee — Deane could not, after December, 1776, act separately. Beaumarchais, not venturing to consult a commission with Lee on it, sent direct to Congress his bill for the three ships (200,000. sterling). Two had been captured — under Deane's contract a loss to America. Congress generally knew nothing of the French aid, its committee having kept that secret for fear it might leak out and compromise France with England. This committee, puzzled by Beaumarchais's rhetorical reclamations, did not reply to his letters, but ordered its commission in Paris to institute an inquiry. The result was two despatches to the committee of Congress. One, dated October 6th, 1777, separately signed by Arthur Lee, gave the history of his interviews with Beaumarchais (in London), who requested

"that a small quantity of tobacco or some other production might be sent to the Cape to give it the air of a mercantile transaction, repeating over and over again that it was for a cover only, and not for payment, as the remittance was gratuitous."

Lee adds :—

"The Minister has repeatedly assured us, and that in the most explicit terms, that no return is to be expected for these subsidies."

The other despatch, dated October 7th, signed by all three commissioners, said on this matter :—

"We entreat that the greatest care may be taken that no part of it [the proposed treaty] shall transpire, nor of the assurances we have received that no repayment will be required from us of what has been already given us either in money or military stores."

Beaumarchais, no doubt informed by Deane of the commissioners' inquiry going on in September, had in that month sent his nephew, De Francy, to Philadelphia to press his claim. This was done without the knowledge of Franklin and Lee ; but Deane gave De Francy a letter to

the Congressional Committee to confirm the claim. This disloyal act was followed by the necessity of signing with his colleagues the despatch of October 7th fatal to the claim. It can hardly be wondered at, then, that when the large parcel sent by the commissioners reached the American Foreign Affairs Office the two despatches (October 6th and 7th) were not found in it. All the other letters and documents were intact, and even the envelopes of the despatches, but these were neatly filled with blank French paper.

It was made clear that the theft had occurred in Paris before the packet reached the trustworthy Capt. Folger who conveyed it, and as England discovered about that time that a French-American treaty was planned, the act was ascribed to its agents. Probably Deane's English clerk, Lupton, assisted him in making up the packet and conveying it to the ship.

A number of suspicious things caused Congress to remove Deane, who was directed to return immediately. The resolution was passed December 8th, 1777, and after its arrival in Paris Beaumarchais wrote the memorial, whose importance must be my apology for the long preface needed for its appreciation:—

Sent to Mr le Cte. de Vergennes the 13 March 1778.

Secret Memorial for the Ministers of the King alone.

Mr. Arthur Lee's character and his ambition made him from the first jealous of Mr. Deane. He has finally become his enemy, as always happens with small minds more concerned to supplant their rivals than to surpass them in merit.

Mr. Lee's connexions in England, and two brothers he has in Congress, have since made him an important and dangerous man.

His plan having always been to prefer, between France and England, the power that would more surely lead him to fortune, England has for him acknowledged advantages. This often appears plain to him in his libertine suppers.

But for success in that direction it was necessary first to remove a colleague so formidable by his knowledge and patriotism as Mr. Deane. He has attained that by rendering him suspicious to Congress, under many aspects.

Having learned that the American army saw with displeasure foreign officers come to demand military rank, he has vilified the zeal of his colleague who had sent them, and the conduct of some Frenchmen escaped from our islands justifying perhaps the dislike they have for our officers in America, Mr. Lee has taken advantage of such feelings to assure Congress that Mr. Deane, of his own initiative and despite good advice, made this envoy of officers, expensive as useless to the republic.

And as the original powers of Mr. Deane extended only to articles of commerce, they have seized this opening to disavow all that he has done in that matter, and it is one of the causes of his present recall.

A second motive of this recall is the officious care Mr. Lee has continually taken to write to Congress that all the goods and munitions which the Maison Hortalez has dispatched from Europe were a present made by France to America,—that he had been so informed by Mr. Hortalez himself,—so that in Congress they could only with very evil eye see arriving invoices, claims and contracts to fulfil them, supported by the certificate and signature of Mr. Deane as having been made by a commercial house, and under the rigorous condition of the most prompt returns.

Nothing then has been so easy to artful Lee as to malign the conduct of Mr. Deane, in attributing it to secret intrigues and efforts to further claims of money whose profit he would afterwards share. And all that fully explains the more than astonishing silence that Congress has kept on more than ten very detailed letters from me. It is this silence that has determined me to cause the departure of an intelligent and discreet man able to make clear the bottom of all this intrigue.

To-day Mr. Deane, at the climax of his affliction, sees himself abruptly and harshly recalled.

He is enjoined to go and give account of his conduct and justify himself for many faults not specified.

In his resentment he had resolved not to leave until Congress had sent him the charges and grievances imputed to him, being unwilling, he said, to go and deliver himself into the hands of his personal enemies without carrying with him the justifications that could confound them. But I have made him change his mind.

To conceive fully the importance of this recall of

Mr. Deane at a moment so critical, it is necessary, if I may speak freely, to share my conviction that England counts for much in the plots of Mr. Lee.

It should be known that he has made his brother the Alderman come from London; that it is by this means that he carries on his secret correspondences; and that after I had fully considered accumulated suspicions on the means employed by England to be informed in time of everything done in France relative to America, I am the more firmly held to the idea that Mr. Lee is a sword with two edges, that since the arrival four days ago of the letters recalling Mr. Deane and appointing Mr. Jones Adams [sic] in his place, *Mr. Lee has sent his valet-de-chambre very secretly to London. He left day before yesterday evening.* For what purpose this mysterious message? How do they always know so exactly at London what passes at Versailles? How have they been informed on the moment that there existed project for a treaty between America and France? And how have they made such great efforts to corrupt me and bribe me with gold to speak, if not to the end of involving me by insidious informations in the disgrace of Mr. Deane, and to ruin me at Versailles while they are ruining him in America? This letter sent to London on the arrival of Mr. Deane's recall is the key of all.

It is thus, then, proved for me that while England is sending commissioners to America, and the relatives and friends of Mr. Lee get ready to favour in Congress reconciliation of the two peoples, they seek to ruin at the same time by calumnies the influence or the credit of the two men they know most attached to the alliance between France and America—Mr. Deane and myself.

This honest American, who until his arrival in France had never experienced the sinister actions of which politicians make only sport, gives way to trouble, he loses his head, and so far from going to America to face the storm, armed with his innocence, he wished to remain in France to await the grievances and justify himself.

While this intrigue has its success in America, Mr. Lee, having need in France of some one who might serve his double purpose of simultaneously ruining Mr. Deane and me if he could, has found in the Comte de Lauraguais precisely the man whose resentment he could whet against me to do me an injury. To entirely alienate my friend he needed only to show him my letters in cipher, by which I recommended Lee to carefully avoid talking politics with Mr. de L... because that was expressly forbidden me. Not that the French heart of Mr. de Lauraguais was to be distrusted, but because every sensible man should fear indiscretion, political tittle-tattle, and because in a grave affair whatever is useless is always out of place.

Armed with all Mr. Lee's secrets, Mr. de L... believed that he had more right than he wanted to come and sound me, and above all to borrow a hundred thousand francs of which he had great need. On my refusal to prattle and the impossibility of lending, Mr. de L... quitted me abruptly, and from that moment the two politicians have acted on the plan that Mr. de Lauraguais, who, like the children, always triumphs too soon, has secretly spread it in Paris that I was ruined, that they no more spoke to me at Versailles, that I was even suspected of treason, and had spies set on my heels. On his side Mr. Lee has not failed to inform his friends in England that the lover of America, so they call me, was disgraced, and that they had nothing more to fear on my part.

Beside the true history of the intrigue which has produced the disgrace of Mr. Deane, and prepared what they call mine, and brought us to the moment of my writing this sketch.

In truth all that appears very petty; but as it is nearly always petty things that damage great matters one is obliged to consider them if only for self-protection.

Also, far from regarding the unforeseen disgrace of Mr. Deane as an evil, and far from encouraging his intention of remaining in France till the arrival of the charges, I regard the plan of making him depart as a stroke of fortune, and think too much force cannot be used to succeed therein.

"Your complete justification," I have said to him, "is in my portfolio. Lee accuses you of having of your own initiative sent officers to America, and I have in my hands a letter in cipher from the artful Lee urgently pressing me to send engineers and officers to the aid of America, and this letter was written before your arrival in France. Mr. Lee pretends to have received from me the assurance that all my consignments to the continent were presents from France, and that all the rest is a job of your cupidity. But in this same portfolio where I am drawing up things I have the correspondence in cipher between Lee and myself which proves that my correspondences have been established by Lee himself, under the form and on the style (*ton*) of a commerce industrious and reciprocal and not otherwise! You have not then of your own initiative

imagined that America had need of officers. Following, on your arrival in France, the steps taken with Mr. Lee, you cannot then be culpable in the eyes of Congress for having regarded as an honourable commerce that which was established under this form, and which has taken another name in the mouth of your perfidious accuser only to injure you; and it is this I promise you to establish beyond dispute."

It is with such arms, with such arguments, that I have succeeded in restoring courage to my desolate friend. I have determined him to brave this storm of a day, and have promised him a memorial for Congress in which I shall establish his active, honest, and patriotic conduct with so much clearness, supported by papers, that his enemies will be forced to repent their imprudence.

But the prompt departure of this American agent appears to me as urgent as essential; for the bearer of our treaty (*conventions*), having been compelled to put into port at Brest fifteen days after leaving Bordeaux, has lost more than two months. The commissioners of England, arrived before him, would have divided, seduced or won Congress were not an able and vigorous man there to balance the power of English intrigue by the advantage of our offers. And what man is more fit for this work than Mr. Deane? Convinced that he owes his disgrace to the enemies of France, he will uphold what she desires with the more good faith because it is now from her alone that he is to hold his justification and his consideration in America.

I venture then to propose that while I establish solidly the first, an honourable attestation of prudence (*sagesse*) and good conduct accorded by the Ministry shall assure the second.

I will request even that some personal favour, as a portrait of the king or other notable present, may assure his compatriots that he was not only an honourable and faithful agent, but that his person, his prudence, and his labours have always been agreeable to the Ministry of France.

Mr. Deane believes (and it is his firm opinion) that France should not lose another instant in showing signally her favour for America. Consequently if he should determine to leave, he believes it would not be an extraordinary demand to desire and propose that a fleet of the king should convey him to Boston, to the end that this public effort of France may efficaciously aid in defeating England's scheme of pacification and render vain the seductions of her commissioners and the intrigue of Mr. Lee's friends.

Without this effort, he believes all is lost for our alliance.

I think with him that this *éclat* would overthrow all the obstacles to the treaty; but as many things may still suspend the resolution for a public movement by France, whatever may be the dispositions of the Government on the matter, I think there should be no hesitation in utilizing the recall of Mr. Deane to take pains to convey to America, loaded with personal honours, a man so useful to our interests.

Once justified in the mind of Congress, his opinion becomes of immense weight and of an authority worthy of respect. He will carry all suffrages, and they will the less resist the force of his representations because his enemies, freshly confounded, will still be in trouble, stunned and put to shame by their ill success.

Should the Ministry not accord him the fleet he desires, there will be needed for him at least a royal frigate: Mr. de Sartines will provide that. He will need a good Memorial, apologetic and justificative, and with that his friend Beaumarchais charges himself with pleasure. He will need an honourable attestation of his action (*gestion*), and this important piece is the work of Mr. le Cte. de Vergennes. Finally, I believe there will be necessary for him a distinctive favour proving the countenance felt towards him personally, and it appears to me that this favour should emanate from the hand of Mr. le Cte. de Maurepas himself, in the name of the king. But there is not a moment to lose. The English have talked of pacification only since they have been convinced, by secret intelligence, that France is sending a treaty to America. Why has Mr. Lee's valet-de-chambre run to London since the arrival of Mr. Deane's recall, if it be not to urge the departure of the commissioners so that they may end their business before ours is begun?

It appears to me important then that Mr. Deane, armed with all documents, but with the air and tone of an afflicted man undergoing disgrace and departing without consolation, shall embark for America.

It is essential that all that which revives his courage shall be a secret to all others, so that his enemies and ours, believing themselves sure of triumph, shall sleep on their precautions. For myself I propose to leave Paris, if it is wished, at the same time, as if a persecuted man abandoning everything. My lawcase at Aix will serve me to a marvel. But I propose also that a sure man shall

eave with Mr. Deane, to report by the same frigate, directed to wait, the effect of the labour of Mr. Deane with Congress.

Then the ruse of our adversaries will recoil on themselves, their efforts to injure our designs will be precisely that which shall hasten the success.

If these views appear sensible and are approved, so soon as I have that assurance I shall drop everything and take no repose until the justification of Mr. Deane shall be by me solidly established.

(Signed) CARON DE BEAUMARCAIS.

The address of this "mémoire secret" is significant : "Pour les Ministres seuls." Had such a paper been seen by the king the results to this ministerial "ring" might have been serious. In this American matter, as a statement of Vergennes attests, the king acted independently. His letters to his uncle, the King of Spain, show that he acted purely for what he believed the security of his country ; and in a letter of January 8th, 1778, he speaks of their joint and disguised "gifts" to the Americans. He had before him the memorial of Beaumarchais "au roi seul" (found among the Genet papers), naming his Majesty as the only "real proprietor" of all returns from America, and as the only one possessing any right of reclamation. He had just assured the American Commissioners in Paris that no reclamation would be made for anything sent. What, then, would the king have thought had he discovered that at the very moment of the treaty of alliance his ministers were privy to an attempt to extort from the suffering Americans a sum that must cripple their revolution ; that his portrait was to be used to guarantee the patriotism of a disgraced agent, whose disloyalty was shown in his refusal to obey the summons of Congress ; and that his first ambassador to his new ally was to be selected, and a fleet sent, at the dictation of Beaumarchais, and for the purpose of extorting from his ally an addition of 200,000L to the two millions entrusted to him for the Americans and which they had never received ?

It is some satisfaction to find that the nominal head of the Ministry, Maurepas, was not in this syndicate. No letter about Deane from Maurepas is in the American archives, and there is reason to believe that it was through him that the king had assured the commissioners that there would be no reclamations. Maurepas was aged, and Vergennes practically the Prime Minister. So Vergennes writes two eulogistic letters, one to Deane himself, the other to the President of Congress ; a snuff-box decorated with diamonds surrounding the king's portrait was obtained ; Gerard, secretary of Vergennes, was appointed ambassador to America ; and D'Estaing's fleet got ready at once to escort Gerard and Deane to the United States in a (literally) imposing way.

Of course none of these ministers cared for American independence, or had sympathy with republicanism ; but they were deceiving their king, they were representing him as having sent his agent to an American agent in London to contrive for him a scheme for making money out of the revolution ; and it is difficult to suppose that they could have followed Beaumarchais's directions, or that he would have given them, had they not been pecuniarily interested in his fraudulent enterprise. Sartines, who occupied the office from which Turgot had been driven, was afterwards disgraced on a charge of malversation of public money ; Vergennes at his death left two millions of livres tournois ; and Beaumarchais left a million—exactly the amount Spain gave him for America, and concerning which no investigation has been made to this day. As for Gerard, he is now known, through some English documents of the time, to have been pecuniarily interested in the Beaumarchais claims.

But unfortunately for the syndicate Congress had in its office of Foreign Affairs a sleepless Secretary—Thomas Paine. At the time when the stolen despatches arrived in duplicate the Committee of Foreign Affairs had not yet been

appointed. The Secretary in this interregnum was himself the whole Committee, for he had no right to consult Congress directly. When, therefore, Gerard and Deane had arrived, and the Beaumarchais claim was pressed, Paine, the only man who held proofs of its fraudulence, and who knew that any attempt to pay the amount would be disastrous to the country, took his official life in his hand, and exposed the scheme—without, of course, dreaming of its extent. He announced that he had evidences of the gratuitous character of the French subsidies, which he would show to any one bringing an authorization from Congress to see them. As at that time, the rupture between France and England being open, nothing could be so grand a seal to the alliance as knowledge of this French generosity, a real ambassador of the king would have welcomed its publication. Gerard, however, was the ambassador of a speculative syndicate ; he was ready to compromise his king by implicitly making him a partner in the pecuniary claims, and complained to Congress of the assertions of Paine. Thus this most radical of republicans defended in 1778 the honour of Louis XVI., whose life he defended in France fifteen years later !

Congress, in view of further French favours expected, was compelled to pretend that it believed the ambassador, and Paine resigned his office. But Gerard saw through the pretence, and tried to bribe Paine to unsay what he had said. Impossible. The syndicate had to accept the quasi-nominal payment of a three years' note drawn on Franklin in Paris, and in such form that the whole matter was left liable to be reopened, as it was, with the result of prolonging the question until far into this century, when Congress in weariness gave 800,000 francs to the daughter of Beaumarchais, which certainly would not have been asked for had these documents in the Genet papers been known. Deane sank into disgrace, and denounced both America and France, selling himself to the English agents. Congress gave some small donation to his descendants, but that was before the revelations in the correspondence of George III.

MONCURE D. CONWAY.

Literary Gossip.

THE Authors' Club proposes to entertain Mr. St. George Mivart at dinner on Monday, April 2nd, in token of respect for his eminence as a man of science and his courage in vindicating the rights of intellectual independence.

THE Kelmscott Press books could not have been submitted to a severer test than that of last week at Sotheby's, when nearly two hundred lots, including many duplicates, were sold on one day. The position of these books, from a commercial point of view, may be regarded as unassailable. The prices of individual publications may fluctuate slightly from one season to another, but probably not to any marked degree. At the time of William Morris's death a considerable fall in the price of Kelmscott Press books was anticipated in some quarters, and, as a matter of fact, there was an apparent decline in the market value, but only for a short space of time. We know of one collector who could have purchased a complete set for 100L, but he hesitated, and, of course, lost his opportunity. We do not think such a chance will occur again for a long time.

MR. A. MUDIE evidently does not read the *Athenæum* with the care his father did, who made a point of calling at Wellington Street every Friday for his copy, which he

used to peruse over his lunch at Simpson's. If Mr. Arthur Mudie had followed this laudable example he could not have failed to see Mr. Vizetelly's letter, or the reply of Messrs. Constable, or their advertisement. It would have proved a case of virtue rewarded.

THE new Ford Lecturer at Oxford, Mr. C. H. Firth, is going to lecture, the *Oxford Magazine* says, on 'The Army of the New Model.' It is an appropriate subject to choose at the present time, and Mr. Firth is believed to know more than any one else about it.

MR. WILLIAM ANDREWS has been elected, out of eighty candidates, Chief Librarian of the Hull Subscription Library. Mr. Andrews by this appointment will be compelled to relinquish the printing business which he started a few years ago, and which he has conducted with a good deal of success. The Hull Subscription Library is an old one, dating back to 1775, and contains over 50,000 volumes.

THE examiners of the Alexander Prize Essay of the Royal Historical Society have recommended that the medal be awarded to Mr. Walter Frewen Lord for a dissertation on 'The Development of Political Parties in the Reign of Queen Anne.' Mr. Frewen Lord is the author of 'The Lost Colonial Possessions of England,' and other works which display considerable research amongst the later State Papers.

A CURRENT bibliography of all new books in Welsh or relating to Wales will in future be included in the *Public Library Journal*, issued quarterly in connexion with the Cardiff and Penarth Free Libraries. The librarian (Mr. J. Ballinger) is inviting the co-operation of authors and publishers.

THE Rev. J. Torrend, S.J., is preparing on a larger scale than any work of the sort hitherto attempted a grammar of the Sena language, spoken on the Lower Zambesi. Sena is practically identical with Mang'anja or Chinyanja, and therefore covers a wide field. Father Torrend is printing his 'Grammar' (in Sena, Portuguese, and English) at the Jesuit Mission Press, Chipanga (Shupanga), and does not expect to have the definitive edition ready within the next two years. In the meantime he is circulating the sheets as they are struck off, and invites suggestions and criticisms from any Bantu scholars whose attention may have been called to them. His address is, care of Deuss, Vertin & Co., Chinde, B.C.A.

THE school for women librarians in Berlin has now been opened. It provides two courses of instruction—one of six months for the training of librarians for the ordinary public libraries, while the other extends over three years, and is intended to prepare the students to take their places at the heads of scientific libraries.

THIS year's annual meeting of the German Goethe Gesellschaft will take place at Weimar on June 8th, when Dr. R. Eucken will read the *Festvortrag* on 'Goethe und die Philosophie des 19 Jahrhunderts.'—Another link with the past has just been broken by the death, at the age of ninety-one, of Demmler, the Berlin gardener, who in his youth came into contact with Goethe

Chamisso, Alexander von Humboldt, and other leading literary men.

HITHERTO there has been no available bibliography of Dutch history, with the exception of contributions to periodical literature, such as may be found in the *Repertorium* of the Maatschappij der Nederlandsche Letterkunde. A special value consequently attaches to the successive "historical catalogues" issued from 1890 to 1899 by the firm of Martinus Nijhoff (Hague)—"Catalogue des Livres sur les Possessions Néerlandaises aux Indes Orientales, Occidentales," &c., 1890; "Catalogue des Livres Anciens et Modernes, Cartes, Plans, Vues concernant l'Histoire Locale et la Topographie des Pays Bas," 1896; and "Histoires des Pays Bas: Catalogue Systématique des Livres," &c., 1899. These three works have now been published in one volume, which will serve as a useful reference book to historical inquirers.

THE Berlin Literaturarchiv-Gesellschaft held its annual general meeting on February 13th. During the past year the society has acquired papers and letters of Niebuhr, Alexander v. Humboldt, Varnhagen v. Ense, and Friedrich v. Schack, besides the important Schleiermacher collection. Mommsen, Meissner, Meyer-Cohn, Dilthey, Erich Schmidt, and Von Wildenbruch were selected as members of the committee, with H. Weinhold as president.

The only Parliamentary Paper of general interest to our readers this week is a Return relating to the Reorganization of the Education and Science and Art Departments (*2d.*).

SCIENCE

The Races of Europe: a Sociological Study.
By William Z. Ripley, Ph.D. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

It is, perhaps, as well that it should have been left to an American professor to perform so excellent a work as this. Had it been undertaken by a European, he might have been suspected of prejudice in favour of one or other of the races investigated. The nucleus of the volume is a series of lectures on physical geography and anthropology delivered by the author before the Lowell Institute in the year 1896, and published by instalments in *Appleton's Popular Science Monthly* during 1897. In that form they did not escape our attention, and were referred to with full appreciation in *Athenæum* Nos. 3641, 3663, 3672, 3675, and 3739. In its present permanent shape, with the new matter which Prof. Ripley has added since his lectures were delivered, the work is indispensable to the library of every anthropologist, and is a storehouse of accurate information and well-reasoned inferences on the interesting and intricate subject to which it relates. We must not omit to notice the graceful tribute the author renders to the share Mrs. Ripley has had in the preparation of the volume, to whom he attributes a large part of the drawing of the maps and constant and devoted aid during the six years that its preparation has occupied. The maps in question are drawn on a uniform scheme, in which the grades of tinting are throughout used to denote as nearly as possible the

same thing. For example, shorter statures are always indicated by darker shades and higher statures by lighter, the same shade representing throughout the several maps approximately the same height; and so with the other anthropometric details in respect of which maps have been provided. It is obvious that to carry out this plan consistently over so wide a field is a matter of great difficulty, and Prof. Ripley disarms criticism on that head by frankly acknowledging instances in which it has not been possible to preserve entire uniformity, and others in which the system he has also adopted of using the spelling native to the country when copying native maps has not been invariably observed, giving rise to an appearance of confusion and to some slight typographical and other errors. The combination of statistical with cartographical investigation embodied in nearly a hundred maps and diagrams in the volume will not fail to impress the reader forcibly with the value of the graphic system as a means of elucidating the difficult questions of races and of environment which are the subject of the work.

The complexity of these problems is more apparent in dealing with the races of Europe, where civilization and means of intercommunication are of so long standing and so far advanced, than in dealing with those of any other of the great divisions of the globe. Community of language, for example, has no necessary relation with identity of race. It is often an historical product of political causes. In our own islands, such diversity of language as exists is an equally insecure test. Prof. Ripley adopts the head-form as one of the best available criteria. He shows how the differences of type dependent upon the variations of the cephalic index affect the general contours of the head and face, and at the same time refutes any inference as to relative intellectual faculty drawn either from these varying proportions or from the absolute size of the head. "Popularly," he says, "a large head with beetling eyebrows suffices to establish a man's intellectual credit; but, like all other credit, it is entirely dependent upon what lies on deposit elsewhere." He maintains the utility of the cephalic index, notwithstanding the objections that have of late years been urged against it, and shows that within a limited area of Western Europe it is to be found in all variations. The colour of the skin is also a racial character, valuable for purposes of broad generalization, as exemplified by the dark complexion of the Jew; but its application is modified by the law that in mountainous areas the proportion of the light coloured in the population increases. Stature, as a test of race, is liable to many qualifications from environment and nurture, but there are instances in Europe where it has been shown to be persistent.

Working from these data, Prof. Ripley substitutes for the white European race of Linnaeus and many of his modern followers three European races—or rather, three distinct physical types of European populations: the Teutonic type, of which the pure-blood Norwegian may be taken as the representative; the Alpine type, with blue eyes and brown hair and high cephalic

index—that is, short headed—of which representative specimens are given from Austria and Bavaria; and the Mediterranean type, a pure brunette, with a low cephalic index—that is, longer headed—represented by natives of Palermo, in Sicily, and of Corsica. This generalization clears the way for a detailed investigation of the races existing in the different countries of Europe, illustrated by more than a hundred well-chosen photographs of typical individuals. France possesses all three types, the Teutonic being well developed in Normandy, the Alpine in Central France, and the Mediterranean in the South. In the population of the Dordogne is an interesting long-headed variety which retains the characteristics of the prehistoric Cro-Magnon race. With regard to the Basques, which have been so generally supposed to represent a prehistoric race, the author accepts the solution of Dr. Collignon, notwithstanding all the difficulties it presents, that they are a Mediterranean type, modified by isolation and in-and-in breeding. Scandinavia and North Germany are the home of the Teutonic race. A Slavonic intermixture in Saxony is shown by two composite photographs, with their components. Italy and Spain are the home of the Mediterranean race. The Alpine race is predominant in Switzerland, Tyrol, and—unlike as that may appear—in the Netherlands.

With regard to the British Isles, Prof. Ripley acknowledges the assistance he has received from Dr. Beddoe and the Anthropological Institute, and has reproduced several of the photographs collected some years ago by a committee of the British Association, of which Mr. Park Harrison was the secretary. These offer a great number of interesting varieties, such as the old black breed of the Shetland Islands, and its combination with the Teutonic element; the Cumberland type coming down from the Bronze Age; the Anglian and Danish varieties to be found in Yorkshire; the old British type in Cornwall and elsewhere; the Jutish survivals in Kent; and the Welsh types; besides others in Scotland and Ireland. The curious fact is noted that, with all its combinations of descent and of type, the population of the British Isles is remarkably homogeneous in head-form, holding more closely to its average low cephalic index of 78 than that of any part of the Continent. Russia and the Slavs, the Jews and Semites, the races of Eastern Europe and of Asia Minor, are the subjects of other learned and exhaustive disquisitions, and the work concludes with eminently suggestive chapters on European origins, social problems, and the future of European races.

The selected bibliography of the anthropology and ethnology of Europe, referred to in *Athenæum* No. 3743 as having been prepared by Prof. Ripley for the public library of the city of Boston, is bound up with the volume, and is a most convenient and useful addition, inasmuch as the author has identified all the numberless quotations made in the work by references to this bibliography. We have to thank Prof. Ripley for a learned, laborious, and instructive book, attractive not only to the student, but to the general reader, and in every respect satisfactory.

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An Atlas of Representative Stellar Spectra from λ 4870 to λ 3300, together with a Discussion of the Evolutional Order of the Stars and the Interpretation of their Spectra.
Preceded by a Short History of the Observatory and its Work. By Sir William Huggins, K.C.B., and Lady Huggins. (Wesley & Son.)

THIS sumptuous and beautifully illustrated volume is the first of the publications of Sir William Huggins's observatory, and, as the title implies, the first and second chapters give an interesting history of the observatory and a list of the published papers which have in rapid succession emanated from it since its erection in 1856. Its position is in close connexion with the author's private dwelling-house at No. 90, Upper Tulse Hill, in the garden of which is an armillary sphere of the date 1680, with the motto "Nil nisi celesti radio." Operations began in 1856 with an equatorially mounted achromatic telescope by Dollond of only 3 inches aperture, but two years later this gave place to one by Alvan Clark with an object-glass of very great excellence, 8 inches in diameter; it was mounted equatorially and furnished with a clock-motion by Mr. Cooke, of York. A view of this instrument is given as it was used for spectroscopic work from 1860 to 1869, at first in conjunction with the late Dr. W. A. Miller, and afterwards by the author alone. In 1870 the dome, which was 12 feet in diameter, was taken down and replaced by a drum 18 feet across, fitted to enclose a much larger instrument by Sir Howard Grubb, which was entrusted to the author by the Royal Society as a loan. It was furnished with two telescopes—an achromatic of 15 inches aperture and a reflector with metallic specula of 18 inches aperture—either of which could be mounted on the equatorial stand. Subsequently, in 1882, by means of a simple device which occurred to Sir William Huggins himself, consisting in the provision of two independent declination axes, one moving within the other, both telescopes were mounted together, one on each side of the polar axis; and since that time either has been available for use. How fruitful that use has been for the progress of what is now generally called the new astronomy, from its developing a fresh field of investigation into the chemical constitution of the heavenly bodies by analysis of their light, of which the practicability was unthought of up to forty years ago, is known to all who have followed in any degree the history of astronomical science during that period. A succinct account of its most interesting developments was given by the author in an article contributed to the *Nineteenth Century* in June, 1897, and by permission those parts of it which more directly concern the Tulse Hill observatory and its work are reproduced in the first chapter of this volume. To go through any portion of it here in detail would occupy space far beyond that at our disposal, but a passing reference cannot be omitted to the author's first investigation of the spectrum of a nebula in 1864, confirming the sagacious suggestion of Sir W. Herschel with regard to the true nature of the nebulae and their place in the cosmos, which ends with the words, "If this matter [a shining field of fluid of a

nature unknown to us] is self-luminous, it seems more fit to produce a star by its condensation than to depend on the star for its existence."

We pass on, then, to the time, in 1876, when Sir W. Huggins was enabled to take up with success, by the aid of the new dry plates with gelatine films introduced by Mr. Kennett, the subject of the photography of the spectra of the stars. The author had now secured, by his marriage in 1875, an able and enthusiastic assistant, who has been associated with him in his work ever since. It has gone on whenever weather permitted, and is still in progress. The nature of the main points of the results obtained is sufficiently indicated in the full title of this volume. The atlas of the stellar spectra, as compared with that of the sun, is contained in twelve beautifully executed plates. The methods by which this has been accomplished and the conclusions to which all this persevering and skilful labour leads can only be completely mastered by a study of its successive chapters. The third gives a description of the methods of taking the photographs of stellar spectra; the fourth describes the spectroscopes in use at the observatory; the fifth the automatic arrangement by which the necessary breadth was given to the stellar spectra on the photographic plate. The sixth, which is of the most general interest, contains a discussion of the evolutional order of the stars and the interpretation of their spectra. The probability as regards the history of the life, so to speak, of a star seems to be that those in which the spectra resemble that of the sun are actually the hottest, the review here given of the present state of our knowledge of the subject showing "that a star's highest temperature is probably not reached until its spectrum has become solar in character, and certainly that, in a condition a little more advanced, cooling, and the consequent waning of its light in the ultraviolet region, have definitely set in." A seventh chapter contains a description of historical spectra obtained at various times in the course of the work; whilst the eighth and last gives a preliminary discussion of the spectra on the plates.

We congratulate Sir William and Lady Huggins on the completion of a work which will remain a classic in astronomy, and is the most important contribution to the "new astronomy" that has yet appeared.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

THE Geographical Journal for March opens with a specimen of the 'Geography of England' which Dr. H. R. Mill proposed for publication in 1896. He then suggested that every sheet of the one-inch Ordnance map should be illustrated and explained by a separate memoir. The "fragment" now published deals with sheets 317 and 332, and shows that a vast amount of useful and interesting information, generally ignored by the compilers of our county directories, is available for the purpose in view. We are of opinion, however, that Dr. Mill would do well to reconsider this scheme, for the sheets of the Ordnance map cut up the country in nearly every instance into quite artificial divisions, whilst by taking for his unit an entire county, and dealing at the same time with unions, and even parishes, the work proposed would be rendered more popular, and at the same time more practically useful.

In the same number of the *Journal* will be found notes of Mr. H. Weld Blundell's remarkable journey from Berbera, through Abyssinia, to the Blue Nile. The paper is accompanied by a sketch-map, based, we are told, upon careful observations for latitude and longitude. It is a pity the results of these observations should not have been published. They might at least have been indicated upon the map.

Dr. H. R. Mill, in the *Scottish Geographical Magazine*, publishes an essay on anthropogeography, in which the natural resources of the temperate regions are passed under review, and their rational development is considered. The paper is well worth reading.

In Petermann's *Mitteilungen* will be found an interesting map of German South-Western Africa, by C. Langhans, exhibiting the distribution of the Boers. From the notes accompanying the map we learn that the white population of that colony in January, 1899, numbered 2,872 souls, including 1,879 Germans and 637 Boers from the Transvaal and Cape Colony; but as very few of the Germans are married men (the police force and officials alone number 776, and are for the greater part single men), whilst the Boers, as elsewhere, have fairly large families, it is the Boers who constitute the bulk of the actual settlers. In the southern portion of the colony they actually constitute a majority. It is to be hoped that when the next census of British South Africa is taken it will be made as complete as in the neighbouring German colony. At all events, it would be of some interest to secure trustworthy information on the relative strength of the British and Boer elements of the population.

Nansen's Arctic expedition is to leave Christiania on May 15th, and is expected to be back in the course of the autumn. Its main object will be the study of the ocean currents within the Arctic Sea.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

THE announcement of the decease of Mr. Leander J. McCormick, of Chicago, at the age of eighty-one, recalls the name of an inventor of agricultural machinery as well as that of a munificent patron of astronomical science. His father was the well-known Robert McCormick, of Virginia, a pioneer in the construction of apparatus for reaping by machinery. At his death, in 1846, the development and improvement of the mechanism of the original reaper devolved upon the son, himself a man of skill and resource. His perfected reaper was, if we mistake not, exhibited first to the British public at the Great Exhibition of 1851, where it received an award of a gold medal from the jurors, while again it was in competition at the Royal Agricultural Society's show at Bristol about twenty years ago. In the States the machine had the ampest scope. As regards the encouragement of astronomical research Mr. McCormick was no laggard, and he stands out prominently among those American citizens who have liberally contributed to the promotion of the work of observation. He gave to the University of Virginia the existing astronomical observatory which bears his name, the cost of building and equipment reaching the total of 20,000^l. In this connexion it is worthy of note that the disastrous fire at Chicago in 1871, while it delayed the completion of the gift for a few years, happily did not entail the abandonment of the scheme, as, indeed, might well have been premised owing to the great personal losses of the would-be donor. It was the desire of Mr. McCormick that the telescope and equipment should be the best of the kind in the world, and at the time of inauguration such was probably the case. Mr. McCormick had one daughter, who married Mr. F. Goodhart, at present a candidate for the constituency of Devonport.

The death is announced, in the seventy-fourth year of his age, of M. Emmanuel Liais, who, after being for some years connected with the

Paris Observatory, went to South America in 1858 to observe the total eclipse of September 7th, and was subsequently appointed first Director of the Brazilian Coast Survey, and then (in 1871) of the observatory at Rio de Janeiro. He discovered Comet 1860 I., which does not appear to have been observed elsewhere than at Olinda, and was able to disprove the alleged discovery of an intra-Mercurial planet by Lescarbault on March 26th, 1859, as he had the sun under observation at the time. M. Liais returned to France in 1881, and died at Cherbourg, his native town, of which he was mayor.

Prof. S. W. Burnham has so long been facile princeps amongst double-star discoverers and observers (for his labours in which the gold medal of the Royal Astronomical Society of London was awarded him in 1894), that the appearance of his *General Catalogue of 1,290 Double Stars, discovered from 1871 to 1899* (The University of Chicago Press), will be eagerly welcomed by astronomers. It is arranged in order of right ascension, with all the micro-metrical measures of each pair, and fills 296 quarto pages. In the introduction is given a little history of the author's career as an astronomical observer. When in London in 1861, he purchased one of the cheap telescopes introduced about that time, with a nominal aperture of only three inches, and a few years later obtained a somewhat larger one "just good enough to be of some use." But in 1869 he accidentally met Mr. Alvan G. Clark at Chicago, on the return of the latter from Iowa, where he had been to observe the total eclipse of the sun, and the result was the ordering of an equatorial of six inches aperture from that now celebrated firm, which, when completed with all desirable appliances, was set up in an observatory which had been prepared for it. By a sort of instinct "which came about naturally, without any effort or direction upon my part," his attention became devoted almost exclusively to the subject of double stars; and his first catalogue of discoveries, consisting of eighty-one pairs, which appeared in 1873, was published, like several subsequent ones, in the *Monthly Notices* of the Royal Astronomical Society. It was about the year 1780 that W. Herschel began to draw up a catalogue of the mutual positions and distances of double stars, in the hope of its leading to determinations of stellar parallax; and his attention having been diverted by noticing in many cases motions in the components relatively to each other, he was able, in 1802, to announce the fact of the existence of sidereal systems, or of stellar motion round other stars in regular orbits. This has since formed one of the most interesting departments of astronomical observation. We need only add here that the volume before us is the first of the "Publications of the Yerkes Observatory of the University of Chicago."

A new small planet was discovered by M. Charlois at the Nice Observatory on the night of the 22nd ult.

The orbit of the comet (a, 1900) which was discovered by M. Giacobini at Nice on January 31st has been computed by Herr Berberich, of Berlin, who finds that the perihelion passage will not take place until the 29th prox. at the distance from the sun of 1.322 in terms of the earth's mean distance; but the comet has been for some time receding from the earth, and not much more is likely to be seen of it. Observing it at Besançon on February 21st, M. Chofardet describes it as "ronde, avec un léger noyau central de 13° grandeur; son diamètre apparent est d'environ 1°."

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—March 1.—Lord Lister, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read the list of candidates for election into the Society.—The following papers were read: 'An Experimental Enquiry into Scurvy,' by Mr. F. G. Jackson and Prof. V. Harley,—'The

Velocity of the Ions produced in Gases by Röntgen Rays,' by Prof. J. Zeleny,—'Mathematical Contributions to the Theory of Evolution: VIII. On the Correlation of Characters not Quantitatively Measurable,' by Prof. K. Pearson.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 22.—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—Mr. C. E. Keyser delivered an address on the subject of the Norman doorways in the diocese of Oxford. He commenced by dividing his subject generally into four periods, viz., first, the Saxon, which seems to have held its ground till about the year 1080; second, from 1080 to 1130, when the doorways were as a rule of massive and plain character; third, from 1130 to 1175, when we get the pure Norman work, with all its varied forms of enriched ornamentation; and fourth, from 1175 to 1210, the Transitional Norman, when we either get the pointed arch with Norman mouldings, or the round arch with Early English characteristics. Mr. Keyser stated, with regard to the special subject of the lecture, that he had collected notes of the churches and other buildings still or till recently retaining their Norman doorways in the diocese, viz., 110 in Oxfordshire, 86 in Berkshire, and 40 in Buckinghamshire, most of which he had himself visited. He then illustrated the subject by over a hundred lantern-slides of the principal doorways, pointing out the noticeable features in the various examples. A large number of photographs was also exhibited of the doorways in the diocese, and about a thousand of the more important specimens throughout the country.

MARCH 1.—Viscount Dillon, President, in the chair.—This being an evening appointed for the election of Fellows, no papers were read.—Mr. C. E. Keyser exhibited a large number of photographs of English Norman doorways.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Prof. F. W. Maitland (proposed by the Council *honoris causa*), Col. W. B. Raikes Hall, the Rev. F. W. Weaver, and Messrs. J. E. Pritchard, Randall Davies, C. A. Bradford, J. B. Atlay, F. E. Sidney, Ernest Crofts, Harold Brakspear, J. Starkie Gardner, W. Dale, and H. F. W. Deane.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Feb. 28.—Dr. Phené, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Oscar Browning read a paper on 'The Evolution of Goethe's Art.' He traced the development of Goethe's literary faculty, beginning with the French influences which surrounded it at Frankfort and the return to German influences at Leipzig, passing to the friendship with Herder, which awakened a love of early natural poetry and the appreciation of English literature, especially Shakespeare and Goldsmith. Then followed the Court life at Weimar, with the stimulus towards the drama, and the journey to Italy, which emphasized the classical tendencies of Goethe's mind. Returning to Weimar, he became possessor of himself and the undisputed master of European literature. In conclusion, Mr. Browning dwelt on the generalizing tendencies of Goethe's later art, and discussed the difficulties which beset a writer in dealing with new forms of passion in the choice of vocabulary and the power of making a definite impression upon his readers. Civilization creates the necessity for new subjects in art, and means of dealing with them adequately must be found.—Messrs. P. W. Ames, G. Highton, Hartley Coleridge, and A. Francke, and the Chairman spoke on the subject.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Feb. 21.—Dr. W. de Gray Birch, V.P., in the chair.—A paper was read by Dr. Brushfield on 'Norman Tympana, with Especial Reference to those of Derbyshire.' There are many Norman tympana still remaining in the churches of this country, some of which were inspected by the members of this Association during the recent Congress at Buxton. The principal doorways of perhaps the majority of the later Anglo-Saxon churches had heads of semi-circular form, which feature was also continued into and to the end of the Norman period; but the architects of the twelfth century filled up the space between the arch and the square head of the door with a stone slab or tympanum. This tympanum was often left quite plain, but in very many instances it was carved with devices of extremely varied character. Some bore patterns of geometric figures, chequers, &c.; the number of these, however, was comparatively few, the majority being sculptured with representations of the human form, of animals, real or fabulous, and with attendant scroll-work. Scriptural scenes were also represented, both symbolically and literally. The whole was usually surrounded by a border, generally of a simple kind, but occasionally richly decorated. Except in the case of a simple figure, like that of the Agnus Dei, few of the sculptures contain a repetition of the same subject, or bear evidence of being the work of the same designer, the representation of Christ in glory being one of the exceptions to the former, and the tympana preserved in the Derbyshire churches

at Findern and Tissington to the latter. In cases where the tympanum does not occupy the whole space between the arch and the door-head a separate lintel is fixed, generally on a level with the capitals of the shafts supporting the arch, and this lintel is frequently carved with a subject quite different from that on the upper stone, as at Little Langford, Wiltz, and Dinton, in Bucks; occasionally, however, the sculpture of the tympanum proper is continued into the lintel, as in the prior's door at Ely Cathedral. There is very considerable difference in the character of the sculptures on the tympana of the south and north door respectively, although not many churches possess both at the present time. The north door is traditionally known in many churches as the devil's door, from its being the entrance set apart for the use of lepers, cagots, and other proscribed races, and the sculpture on the tympanum of each door was intended to demonstrate the different kind of lesson each was intended to convey to the worshippers; thus on the tympanum of the north door of Egloskerry Church in Cornwall is seen the sculpture of the dragon with tufted tail, and on that of the north door at Quenington, Gloucestershire, the subject sculptured is the harrowing of hell. On the tympanum of the south door at Egloskerry Church the Agnus Dei is sculptured, and the crowning of the Virgin on the tympanum of the south door at Quenington. Symbolic sculpture is sometimes found carved in the arch itself, as at Findern and Tissington in Derbyshire. In the Derbyshire churches there is a preponderance of ordinary animals represented over the fabulous ones to be seen elsewhere, which, it seems reasonable to suppose, is owing to so many of the churches being situated either within or upon the borders of the great midland forest of early times, which were full of wild animals, like the boar and the wolf, much feared by the sparse inhabitants of the district for their ferocity, and therefore represented over church doors either as types of evil or as showing by their adoration the power of the Cross. In both cases they would appeal to the eyes of the ordinary worshippers from the originals being so well known to and feared by them.—An interesting discussion followed the paper, in which Mr. Gould, Mr. C. R. B. Barrett, the Rev. H. J. D. Astley, and others took part, the Chairman remarking that a good service would be rendered to archaeology by arranging an index to all sculpture, tympana, and details of architecture other than technical lines and areas.—The Rev. H. T. Owen read a paper on 'Recent Discoveries at Valle Crucis Abbey,' in which he described the various works undertaken during the past six years and the results obtained. Several of the buttresses at the east end of the abbey, the central window of the chapter house, and the abbot's throne, all of which were in a ruined condition, have recently been restored at the expense of Sir Theodore Martin. In July last some further excavations were commenced under Mr. Owen's supervision in the cloister, where a building had stood which had for many years been used as a stable. After clearing away about 3 ft. of earth and débris the ancient walls of a bath were discovered, and at a lower depth much water was met with, which stopped the work for a week or two. A pump was obtained and kept going all day to keep down the water, and at length, at a further depth of about 4 feet, what is believed to be a Roman bath was met with. The bath measures about 21 ft. by 9 ft. A second fine bath was discovered to the west, and there is a third, which it is intended to excavate as soon as funds permit. Mr. Owen thinks the whole area of the cloisters was a Roman sanatorium. Some curious finds were met with in the course of these excavations, including a brass of Constantine, some silver pennies of the first two Edwards, and a token of the eighteenth century. In the first ages of Christianity the large bath may have been used as a baptistery, and at the bottom of this bath some embroidered hair was found. It is related that in the early period the newly baptized had to cut off the plaited hair as a token that they were not again to go back into the world. In this bath also were discovered some ancient beads, probably belonging to a rosary. Roman pottery and oyster shells were met with in the course of the excavations. Many of the articles discovered were exhibited, including a copy of the Koran in Arabic, which was found built up in a wall, and is thought likely to have been brought over by a Saracen prisoner during the wars of the Crusades.—Dr. Brushfield considered further evidence was required before the actual character and period of the discoveries could be demonstrated, and Dr. Birch said archaeologists should hold their opinions in abeyance pending the results of further operations and examination.—About 50% is still required to complete the excavation of these baths.

CHEMICAL.—March 1.—Prof. Thorpe, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: Pilocarpine and the Alkaloids of Jaborandi

Leaves,' by Dr. H. A. D. Jowett,—'Isomeric Partially Racemic Salts containing Pentavalent Nitrogen: I. Hydrindamine Bromocamphorsulphonates; II. Hydrindamine Chlorocamphorsulphonate; III. Hydrindamine cis-II-Camphanates,' by Dr. F. S. Kipping,—'New Synthesis of Indene,' by Dr. F. S. Kipping and Mr. H. Hall,—'Potassium Nitrohydroximodisulphate and the Non-existence of Dihydroxyamine Derivatives,' and 'Identification and Constitution of Fremy's Sulphazotized Salts of Potassium,' by Drs. E. Divers and T. Haga,—'Some Acids obtained from α-dibromocamphor,' by Messrs. A. Lapworth and E. M. Chapman,—'Spectrographic Studies in Tautomerism: The Absorption Curves of the Ethyl Esters of Dibenzoylsuccinic Acid,' and 'The Curves of Molecular Vibrations of Benz-antialdoxime and Benz-synaldoxime,' by Mr. W. N. Hartley and Dr. J. D. Dobbie,—'On Campholytic and Isolauronic Acids,' by Messrs. J. Walker and W. Cormack,—'The Configuration of the Camphoric Acids,' by Messrs. J. Walker and J. K. Wood,—'The Constitution of Camphoric Acids,' by Mr. J. Walker,—'Iodonium Compounds of the Type I R' R'' R''' and the Configuration of the Iodine Atom,' by Dr. F. S. Kipping and Mr. H. Peters,—'Note on the Decomposition of Semicarbazones,' by Dr. F. S. Kipping,—and 'On the Presence of Invertase in some Plants of the Gramineæ, Part I,' by Mr. J. O'Sullivan.

MICROSCOPICAL.—*Feb. 21.*—Mr. W. Carruthers, President, in the chair.—Mr. E. M. Nelson, in presenting a "Jones's most improved combined microscope and apparatus," said the Society had not hitherto possessed an example of this instrument in its collection. The exact date of the instrument was a little uncertain, but he believed it to be about the last improvement in the non-achromatic microscope. The first published description of this microscope with a figure is to be found in Adams's 'Essays on the Microscope,' 1798.—Dr. J. W. Measures exhibited the photomicrographic and projection apparatus made by Carl Zeiss, of Jena. The apparatus was particularly complete, sufficing both for photomicrography and for projection. The camera was fitted with a bellows divided into two parts, and though upon a stand separate from that which carried the microscope and illuminating apparatus, no inconvenience had been found to arise from vibration. An arc lamp was used supplied by a continuous current of 65 volts, 30 ampères. The condenser, water chamber, iris diaphragm, and other parts required for illumination were fitted upon saddles sliding upon a L-shaped rail in front of the lamp, so that when once they had been accurately centred they could be moved along the rail to any required position without getting out of the optical axis. The first part of the exhibition illustrated the use of the arrangements for projecting the images of opaque objects upon the screen. This was followed by the exhibition of microscopic slides comprising insects, plant sections, marine polyps, and preparations of animal tissues, chiefly by means of the Zeiss microplanar objectives. The last portion of the exhibition consisted of lantern-slides of plants, animals, and landscapes, and some fine photomicrographs of diatoms, lent for the occasion by Dr. Spitta. The apparatus is constructed so as to render the transition from micro- to macro- projection and the reverse rapid and easy, the rearrangement of parts being effected in from one to three minutes.—The President thought they had before them an instrument of great utility in illustrating public lectures by showing minute details of sections on a large scale, much larger than there were conveniences for doing in that room.—Mr. L. Wright said he had heard much of the excellence of the Zeiss microplanars, and had long desired to see what could be done with them. What he had seen that evening fully came up to his anticipations, the flatness of field and the definition up to the margin of the field being remarkably good.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—*March 6.*—Sir D. Fox, President, in the Chair.—It was announced that 8 Associate Members had been transferred to the class of Members, and that 10 candidates had been admitted as Students.—The monthly ballot resulted in the election of 4 Members, 11 Associate Members, and 1 Associate.—The paper read was 'A Short History of the Engineering Works of the Suez Canal,' by Sir C. A. Hartley.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—*March 5.*—The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—Mrs. Colenso, Miss A. C. Colthurst, Prof. J. D. Everett, Prof. P. F. Frankland, Mr. A. C. Ionides, Mrs. A. B. Kempe, Mr. A. G. Low, Col. W. T. Makins, Col. F. Rhodes, Mr. W. M. Still, Major F. Trench-Gascoigne, Dr. S. West, Mrs. West, and Miss H. M. White were elected Members.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—*March 5.*—Mr. H. B. Wheatley in the chair.—Mr. E. Sanger Shepherd delivered the first of his course of Cantor Lectures on 'The Photography of Colour.'

March 7.—Sir Owen Tudor Burne in the chair.—Dr. Carl Peters read a paper on 'Maccombe's Country (South of the Zambesi), its Ancient Goldfields and Industrial Prospects.'

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—*March 5.*—Mr. H. O'Connor, President, in the chair.—A paper was read on 'The Closing of Breaches in Sea and River Embankments,' by Mr. R. F. Grauntham.

PHYSICAL.—*March 2.*—Prof. G. Carey Foster, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. F. G. Donnan read a paper on 'The Relative Rates of Effusion of Argon, Helium, and other Gases.'—Mr. E. C. C. Baly read a paper on 'The Distillation of Liquid Air and the Composition of the Gaseous and Liquid Phases.'—A paper on 'The Reversibility of Galvanic Cells,' by Mr. T. S. Moore, was read by Dr. Lehfeldt.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON.** Society of Arts, 8.—Photography of Colour, Lecture II., Mr. E. Sanger Shepherd. (Cantor Lecture.)
Surveyors Institution, 8.—Underground Water, Mr. J. Shires Will.
- TUES.** Royal Institution, 3.—The Structure and Classification of Fishes, Lecture IX., Prof. B. Ray Lankester.
Atlantic, 4.—My Journey through the Khanate of Bokhara, Mr. H. B. Wheatley.
- WED.** Society of Arts, 8.—English Furniture, Mr. L. Liberty.
Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on 'The Engineering Works of the Suez Canal.'
- THURS.** Anthropological Institute, 8.—Stone Circles of Scotland, Mr. A. A. Lewis; Megalithic Buildings in Malta and Gozo, Mr. J. L. Myres.
- FRI.** Society of Arts, 8.—Continuation School Work in Rural Districts, Mr. H. Macan.
- THU.** Royal Institution, 3.—Recent Excavations at the Argive Heraion, Lecture III., Dr. C. Waldstein.
Royal Society, 44.—Historical.
- FRI.** Linnean, 8.—Report on the Botanical Results of an Expedition to Mount Roraima in British Guiana, undertaken by Messrs. F. V. McCoy and J. J. Godwin, of the Botanic Library and Museum, &c., Brysonia from French Joseph Land, Bottled by the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition, 1896-7, Mr. A. W. Waters.
- SAT.** Chemical, 8.—The Vapour Densities of Dried Mercury and Mercuric Chloride, Mr. H. Breerton Baker; 'The Preparation of Pure Hydrobromic Acid and a New Sulphide of Arsenic,' Dr. A. Senn; 'The Action of Iodine on Iodine,' Mr. R. L. Taylor; 'The Interaction between Sulphites and Nitrates,' Drs. E. Divers and Tamenessa Haga; and 'New Polysaccharides: Manno-galactan and Levulo-mannan,' Messrs. J. L. Baker and T. H. Pope.
- SUN.** Society of Antiquaries, 8.—An inscribed Roman Ingots of Cornish Tin, and Roman Tin-mining in Cornwall, Mr. F. Haverfield.
- FRI.** Royal Institution, 9.—'Pictorial Historical Records,' Sir B. Stone.

FINE ARTS

GREAT ARTISTS.

Masterpieces of Dutch Art in English Collections. Etchings by P. J. Arendzen. Text by Dr. C. Hofstede de Groot. (London, Obach & Co.; Amsterdam, Buffa Fils.)—Political and military circumstances, including chiefly the confiscations of Joseph II., the incursions of Louis XIV. into the Low Countries, and the wars of the French Revolution, made England very exceptionally rich in the works of many famous masters. English wealth favoured the acquisition of pictures in so high a degree that no other country's private collections can be compared with those which have furnished this sumptuous portfolio. It is a fact which cannot be denied—that, alas! neither can it be altered—that the public collections of Holland afford but little opportunity of learning to know Rembrandt as a painter of historical, and above all of religious subjects. Even the more cultivated among Dutch people are ignorant of, or at least are insufficiently acquainted with, this phase of the genius of their greatest artist. The 'Simeon in the Temple' at the Hague is the only Scriptural piece of the first rank in Dutch museums, but, though it is a marvellous work for a youth of twenty-four or twenty-five, it furnishes no idea of the powerful character and deep feeling which mark the Biblical pictures of Rembrandt's ripe years. What Holland possesses besides within its borders is either of less importance or less accessible. Much of this is asserted on the authority of Dr. H. de Groot, who, as one of the Directors of the Ryks Museum at Amsterdam, ought to know what he is writing about. He analyzes Rembrandt's method and inspiration with reference to 'The Salutation' in the manner of all experts, that is, in the form of a description of its leading elements, thus bringing to the reader's notice whatever there is to be

admired in it. He reminds us, too, of the more important facts in the picture's history, such as that it once belonged to that warlike collector Prince Eugene of Savoy, afterwards to the King of Sardinia's gallery, from which, after an interval, it passed in 1812 to Grosvenor House, where it is now most liberally made accessible to the public. Herr Arendzen has strenuously adhered to the distinctive qualities of the pictures he has selected, avoiding the mannerism which injures many long series of etchings; for example, the method of F. Bol and even his way of looking at things are thoroughly distinguished from those of his master. Bol's 'Married Pair at their Toilette' is a capital example of the etcher's discriminating skill, and the more remarkable, too, because, as Dr. Hofstede de Groot notices, the husband in the group is the same whom Rembrandt painted in a picture now in the possession of the Duke of Newcastle, and his wife, who accompanies him, figures again in a portrait in the Brussels Museum, there said to represent Saskia. The critic's final comment on the work is thoroughly to the point. "It is hard to look at this picture," he says,

"with its splendid warm light, its harmonious colour, and its healthy technical and artistic qualities, without regret that the same Bol should have later so greatly forgotten himself, and have only painted pictures of a purely decorative and often bombastic character."

"Bombastic" is the right word. The first plate in the book reproduces Rembrandt's 'Salutation of the Virgin,' which was one of the chief attractions of the recent exhibition at the Academy. Dr. de Groot's careful studies enable him to point out some of the vagaries of the ablest Dutchmen, such as De Hooghe, the interior lights of some of those views of rooms in which he so often charms us not always agreeing with the lighting of the more distant exterior in the same pictures. He comments, too, upon the fact that the Dutch marine painters, when freed from the influence of Flemish art, developed their views independently—Simon de Vlieger, for instance, and J. Van de Capelle, both of whom show symptoms of influence of Rembrandt. He does not fail to record the growth of the taste for such painters as Hobbema, and also of Cuyp, now a highly fashionable master, one of whose capital landscapes was cut in halves and sold as two, so that in John Smith's time they remained separate in Lady Stuart's house, till Brown, the dealer, bought them both, joined them, and sold them as one to the grandfather of Mr. Holford. Mr. Holford recently lent it to the Academy. We are indebted to the publishers for impressions on Japanese paper, with the remarques of these etchings. The first portion of them we recommended to our readers about a year and a half ago. The series is now complete.

Luca Signorelli. By Maud Cruttwell. (Bell & Sons.)—The present volume aims at giving a popular account of Luca Signorelli and his art. Considering how little is known about either by occasional visitors to picture galleries, the book is likely to be serviceable to many who may desire to learn something respecting the achievement of one of the greatest painters of the Italian Renaissance. It is, of course, no difficult undertaking for the student of the history of painting to become familiar with all that has been discovered relating to Signorelli, whether as to his work or to the circumstances of his career. But it is another matter with the layman. The works are scattered over many galleries. Some, as the frescoes, stand in obscure and unfrequented Italian cities. And the details of his life are to be searched for in histories and publications not usually possessed by the general reader; the only single volume on Signorelli has hitherto been the valuable monograph by Herr Vischer. Miss Cruttwell has shown industry and intelligence in the execution of her task. Her style is, perhaps,

rather too suggestive of the lady professor, who has picked up a few technical terms in vogue among the impressionists, which might have been omitted in discussing the art of Signorelli. The process illustrations are from photographs, and are, therefore, misleading for those unacquainted with the original pictures. In some cases they are so confused and indistinct that it is difficult to distinguish the separate figures. Possibly the author is not responsible for the illustrations. It is twice stated that the frontispiece is a portrait of Signorelli. The frontispiece is the portrait of an unknown man in the Berlin Gallery. However, it is in a different style from the other illustrations, and is a good rendering of a noble portrait.

We are glad to find that the remarkable series of articles on *Gustave Moreau*, contributed by M. Ary Renan to the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, have now appeared in a complete form. In dealing with a painter who does not pretend to paint man, but the "thoughts and imaginings of men," there are always peculiar dangers of misinterpretation to be guarded against. Even those who can rightly apprehend the quality of the painter's vision are given to seeing nothing else, and fall into the toils of a sentimental admiration actually injurious to the reputation of its object. They thus afford a justification to the attitude of such as, being insensible to the attraction of the painter's dreams, blind themselves to the nature of his claims as an artist. M. Ary Renan, admirably sympathetic, is, at the same time, critical. He defines the different phases of Moreau's talent, together with the series of conceptions by which his work was dominated, and formulates the laws by which he worked them out. In executing this difficult bit of interpretation he touches the weak place delicately, but with perfect critical tact, and shows how the "principe de la Richesse" triumphed in Moreau's late work to the detriment of "la ligne," so that we finally come to examples "où le décor devient exubérant, où la facture se dilue dans l'irradiation du coloris." M. Renan's chapter on the "Fatal Helen" may be read with interest by those to whom Moreau's art is unfamiliar, and the illustrations of the volume, which is published by the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, show the high level of execution to which we have been accustomed by the present administration.

FRENCH ARCHAEOLOGY.

The Stones of Paris in History and Letters, by Benjamin E. Martin and Charlotte M. Martin, 2 vols. illustrated (Smith, Elder & Co.), is a book which is readable for the general public without being, as it easily might be had the authors taken less trouble, ridiculous to the learned. To some extent it fills the place of a book for which we have often sighed in vain—for it does not exist—a history of the Paris streets and of their changed and changing names. Of course in two volumes crammed with allusions it is possible to find some mistakes, and still more positive assertion upon matters of doubt; but it would be impossible to point them out in the present case without paying repeated tribute to the industry of the authors and to their evident deep interest in their enthralling subject. The authors are convinced of the virtues of Madame Récamier. They tell us of "her passion for goodness," "her modesty," and so forth. The topic is one so closely connected with the literary lives of Chateaubriand, B. Constant, and Madame de Staél, that it forms what a dead critic used to call in our pages one of the fox-hunts of men of letters. Our authors see no mystery and have no doubts. But they could hardly be expected to wander off from their special subject into the strange story of life at Coppet during Madame Récamier's visit. From the particular point of view of "modesty," which is that deliberately chosen by our authors, the virgin-wife and lover who patronized the

somewhat gross and kaleidoscopic amours of her greater woman-friend is to our mind less attractive than Madame de Staél herself, who at least was frank, except when, as in the case of Rocca, she was socially ashamed. The relations of the two women to both B. Constant and to the Prussian prince to our modern minds were nasty. Our authors state that the seminary of St. Sulpice in front of the church was "built in the early years of the seventeenth century"; but we were under the impression that the seminary was only established in 1642. The chief fault of the book is a certain confusion of style; for example, in vol. ii. pp. 186, 187, in the account of some kings of France. Bottin is taken as an authority on present addresses, but "Tout Paris" is far safer for what it includes; for example, in vol. ii. p. 116, "the comtesse de Chevreuse" is a mistake for the present "duchesse de Chevreuse." Place des Vosges is not, as asserted, a name taken from a "province," but from a department. The provinces of ancient France were not named from natural objects, and the revolutionary departments were named after rivers and mountains. The book would have been improved by a list of authorities, or by references, as, for example, to M. de Guillermy's *Itinéraire Archéologique de Paris*, and to *'Les Monuments de Paris'*, by M. de Champeaux.

We have received two more numbers of M. de Nolhac's great work *L'Histoire du Château de Versailles*, now in course of publication by the Société d'Édition Artistique. It is not only the most important publication of all those which have appeared on this subject, but the only one the text of which can be consulted with absolute confidence in its authority. The illustrations are, unfortunately, of very various merit; the process or processes employed seem best adapted to rendering the exterior, the architectural detail, and the sculptured groups which adorn the gardens and fountains of Versailles. The reproduction of the engravings, valuable as they are as documents, scarcely seems sufficient from an artistic point of view; it is, however, understood that the publishers have the generous intention of repeating those which may be regarded as serious failures. The text of the third part, now in our hands, contains citations from the chief contemporary writers of the Grand Siècle who have described the ancient glories of the domain of Louis XIV. All lovers of letters, as well as students of the period, will turn M. de Nolhac's pages with delight.

TWO BABYLONIAN SEALS.

46, Fulham Park Gardens, S.W. March 3, 1900.

I HAVE read with interest Mr. Hayes Ward's letter on the subject of two cylinder seals which Mr. L. W. King, of the British Museum, has published in his recent work. As to the first of these I have no remarks to make, for each student has a right to form and to hold his own opinion with regard to its interpretation and date. About the second I have a few words to say, and if you can find room for them in your valuable paper I shall be very much obliged. This seal, which Mr. Ward declares to be a forgery, was published for the first time by Mr. King. On inquiry at the British Museum I find that the seal has not yet been exhibited; it follows, therefore, that Mr. Ward can never have seen it! Thus it seems that Mr. Ward has based his opinion as to its genuineness upon a printed copy made from a process-block, which was derived from a photograph of a plaster impression of the seal! I have been allowed by the authorities of the Museum to examine the seal carefully, and to compare it with the others of the same period in the collection. I have also compared it with the seals published by Le Clerq, De Sarzec, Dieulafoy, and others, and in my opinion there is no doubt whatever as to its genuineness. Both

the cylinder and the work which is upon it are ancient, and belong to the Sumerian period, and the workmanship is in the best style of glyptic art. The scene represented upon it has not been recognized by Mr. Ward; but this is not to be wondered at, because he is not an expert in cuneiform archaeology or in Babylonian mythology. Mr. Ward has collected cylinder seals for some years, but any one who will take the trouble to read his descriptions of the seals which he published in his short catalogue some years ago will see at a glance that he is an amateur with but little experience. The mere fact of his passing a sweeping condemnation on an object which he has never seen speaks volumes for the value of his opinion and judgment on such matters. If further proof of his inability to decide such questions be wanted, I have only to refer the reader to his unfortunate connexion with and publication of the famous "Dr. Blau forgeries." These objects were twice published by Mr. Ward, who, in this case also, based his opinion on a copy or photograph only. These grotesque forgeries were denounced some time ago by M. Menant, and during the past year were bought for a few shillings as well-known forgeries by a London dealer in a London sale-room; and they were given by him to the British Museum, where I myself have seen them.

W. ST. CHAD BOSCAVEN.

CHANCELLOR FERGUSON.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Richard S. Ferguson, M.A., LL.M., F.S.A., Chancellor of the diocese of Carlisle, and a noted antiquary, at his residence in Carlisle, on the 3rd inst.

Chancellor Ferguson was born in 1837, and was educated at Shrewsbury School and St. John's College, Cambridge. He took his B.A. degree in 1860, and was called to the bar in 1862. After practising for about ten years as a barrister his health broke down, and until 1874 he travelled in Egypt and Australia. On his return home Mr. Ferguson devoted himself henceforth to local matters and the study of archaeology. He was twice Mayor of Carlisle, in 1881-2 and 1882-3, and besides editing a volume on the municipal records, he also published one on the royal charters granted to his native city. In recognition of these labours the corporation made him an honorary freeman of Carlisle. Mainly through his exertions the interesting mansion called Tullie House was acquired by the city and converted into an institution for the advancement of science, art, and literature, including a Free Library, an excellent museum of local antiquities and natural history, schools of art and science, and an art gallery.

But to a wide circle of friends Chancellor Ferguson was best known as an antiquary. As early as 1866 he was instrumental in establishing the Cumberland and Westmoreland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, which, under his fostering care, has risen to a high rank among local societies. Since 1868 he had edited its transactions, and the numerous papers which he contributed show alike the deep interest he took in matters archaeological and the wideness of his tastes. He did much to clear up, principally by excavations, many of the disputed points concerning the Roman Wall, and through his energy a large number of important sculptured and inscribed Roman remains were rescued from injury and destruction, and preserved at Tullie House. By the publication in 1882 of a work on church plate in the diocese of Carlisle he did much to arouse an interest in a hitherto neglected subject, which has brought forth good fruit in many other parts of England. In 1877 Chancellor Ferguson was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and appointed its local secretary for Cumberland, a post he held until his death. His zeal was evinced in the constant series of carefully prepared reports which he communicated to the

Society. He was also an old member and a Vice-President of the Royal Archaeological Institute, and besides contributing papers from time to time to its *Journal*, he was a regular attendant at the annual meetings held in different parts of the country.

Chancellor Ferguson had been an acute sufferer from asthma and bronchitis from his youth, and had latterly been greatly enfeebled by a serious heart complaint, which eventually caused his death. His kindly presence and genial good nature will be missed by a wide circle of friends.

Christ Church, Oxford, March 6, 1900.

MAY I be allowed briefly to testify to the archaeological services of Chancellor Ferguson? My own work necessarily brings me into contact with the work of local archaeology in many districts, and I have learnt to rate Mr. Ferguson's work extremely high. I do not refer so much to his printed work, though that is extensive and valuable; I would rather emphasize his practical work as a county archeologist. Not only has he maintained for thirty years a numerous, effective, and influential society for the study of local antiquities—a rare achievement in these latter days; he has also shown a real appreciation of the objects at which such a society may profitably aim. To his efforts we owe the museum at Tullie House, Carlisle. He instigated the preparation of catalogues of county antiquities, the illustrated catalogue of Roman stones at Tullie House, the ample list of sepulchral effigies in Cumberland churches by Canon Bower, the volume on early local crosses by Messrs. Calverley and Collingwood—all three published by the local society. He promoted the publication of local documents, such as the Chartulary of Wetheral, lately issued by Canon Prescott. He urged on excavation, both of Roman remains, as at Hardknott and along the Wall, and of ecclesiastical, as at Furness Abbey. It was a bitter disappointment to him some weeks ago that no report on the Furness excavations had been yet prepared by the excavators. Personally or by deputy he watched over his neighbourhood, guided restoration, and recorded discoveries. His place cannot be filled as he filled it, but he has left an admirable example of vigorous and valuable work for local history, and the more clearly his merits are recognized the more useful will be his example.

F. HAVERFIELD.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 3rd inst. the following pictures: A. Achenbach, View on the Beach at Scheveningen, 315*l.* O. Achenbach, Scene on the Quay at Naples, 168*l.*; View of Rome, 157*l.* E. de Blaas, A Venetian Workroom, 19*l.* F. Drefger, An Interior, with Tyrolean peasants, 110*l.* J. Israëls, A Peasant Woman, seated before a fire, 120*l.* B. C. Koekkoek, A Landscape in Winter, 178*l.* R. Salinas, The Golden Wedding, 210*l.* G. Schönleber, Frankfort-on-the-Main, 273*l.* A. Schreyer, A Group of Five Mounted Arabs, 588*l.* E. Verboeckhoven, A Peasant, with sheep, donkey, &c., 152*l.*; Sheep and Poultry in a Stall, 220*l.* F. Ziem, Two Large Steamships at Anchor, 378*l.*

On the 5th inst. E. W. Cooke's picture A Dutch Poon running for the Port of Harlingen fetched 19*l.*

Fine-Art Gossip.

SIR EDWARD POYNTER's contributions to the coming Academy are not ambitious, although they display the solid and learned qualities of his art. The largest is a seated portrait, life-size, three-quarters, of Mrs. Murray Guthrie in a close-fitting evening gown of white satin; the face is in nearly full view, the eyes are directed to the front, her hands rest in her lap. A much smaller picture depicts playful groups of Greek

girls at a fountain; one of them is splashing a companion with the water. The design is fresh and spontaneous. Somewhat larger is a painting of Shakespeare's Helena and Hermia on a garden-seat, which is backed by a laurel hedge; the costumes are Greek, and the figures are vivaciously discussing the rich ornaments of a piece of embroidery, which, according to the text, engrossed them both. Since it was exhibited Sir Edward has worked a good deal upon his brilliant picture 'The Skirt Dance,' the interior of a Greek hall, where a dancer, clad in a rose-coloured tissue, is performing before an assembly of ladies and children to the music of a piper standing on her right.

THE Dowdeswell Galleries contain seventy-seven drawings by Mr. H. Goodwin, representing scenes among Italian cities and Swiss mountains. Collectively, in character, execution, and sentiment, they approximate to the works of A. W. Hunt, but they do not possess the range, delicacy, firmness, and research of that admirable artist. They are furthest removed from the standard of Hunt in their lack of poetry, which is present in very unequal and generally very limited degree in these drawings. We like best of them 'San Costanza and San Pietro, Perugia' (No. 7), on account of the richness and choiceness of its middle tints, though, as in most of its neighbours, the drawing lacks precision and research. Fineness, good colour, and sympathy with nature are manifest in 'When the Swallows Return, Florence' (11), but it is prosaic. The colour of 'A Forsaken Path, Verona' (14), is commendable, and the subject itself has a touch of poetry about it. The most poetical of the lot is 'Waiting for the Sun, Pilatus' (65), a study of effect before dawn in a lofty mountain country. Very clear, and sounder than ordinary, is 'Riva San Lorenzo, Verona' (15). The opalescence of the shadowed 'Porch of San Zeno, Verona' (24), as seen in sunlight, is delicate and enjoyable. The reflection of sunlight on the green water which distinguishes 'The Ocean Pathway' (28) is good and true. The most tender of the remaining drawings is 'A Summer Morning, Lucerne' (56).

MR. H. THOMSON has collected at the Continental Gallery, in New Bond Street, a number of his drawings, tinted as well as in black and white, made for 'The Highways and Byways of Great Britain and Ireland.'

THE Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts, which till within the last two years was in sole occupation of the gallery in the Champ de Mars, has determined not to hold an exhibition this year. This has been decided on, the Paris authorities say, "d'accord avec la Société des Artistes Français"—that is, with the leaders of the Salon. Probably the junior society will henceforth be merged in the older. Another subject for congratulation is that the managers of the latter body have decided greatly to reduce the number of works for which room will be found.

MUSIC

The National Music of America and its Sources. By Louis C. Elson. (Boston, U.S. Page & Co.)

It was during the epoch of the Reformation, as our author reminds us, "that the seeds were planted which afterward became the earliest music of New England," and he carefully distinguishes between the Pilgrims and the Puritans: the former were members of the Separatist Church at Leyden, the latter a "dissatisfied kind of Episcopalians"; in the new country, however, as regards the musical part of the services, they soon adopted a similar service. An entertaining account is given of the

opposition to 'The Bay Psalm-Book,' the first volume of the kind printed in the colonies (1636). Singing from printed music, called "the new way," was objected to for many reasons, and first because it was a new way; then because it was Popish, because "it grieves good men, exasperates them, and causes them to behave disorderly," and so on, many other objections being equally foolish. There was also the fight against organs. In 1713 Mr. Brattle, a Puritan, "but a man of artistic instincts" (the "but" is amusing), presented, by will, an organ to the Brattle Square Church, Boston, yet the gift was declined. A quotation from Henry M. Brooks's 'Olden-Time Music' gives curious inferential proof that the Puritans in their homes did not indulge in instrumental music. The earliest inventories in the Probate Office of Essex county mention

"every pot, skillet, gridiron, article of wearing-apparel, old chair and table, bed, bolster, and pillow, silver spoon, pewter dish, bushel of corn; indeed articles of the most trifling nature are carefully enumerated; no lutes, citterns, spinets, harpsichords, flutes, or viols are mentioned."

The earliest record of any secular concert in America was one given in Faneuil Hall, Boston, in 1744. A programme of one at Salem in 1798 is a curiosity. It opens with a "Grand Symphony by Pleyl." Haydn—or Hayden, as the name is spelt—is only represented by a "Full Piece." Of Beethoven we are told that his "fifth symphony was performed in Boston less than seventy years ago, divided into three sections, with lighter music interspersed, for fear that the audience would grow weary!" This reminds one of the second performance of Handel's 'Israel in Egypt' in 1739, when the oratorio "was shortened and intermixed with Songs." It is interesting to see how European national songs have been utilized by the Americans. "My country, 'tis of thee," was set to 'God save the King' in 1832, and the tune was christened 'America.' 'Yankee Doodle' appears to be either of English or Dutch origin. The 'Star-spangled Banner,' the "melody which is dearest to the American heart," seems almost to a certainty English. The music has been ascribed to Dr. S. Arnold; it has, by the way, rhythmic and at times note resemblance with Purcell's "Now the maids and the men" duet. Then 'Rule, Britannia,' was patriotically plagiarized in 1794, when it became 'Rise, Columbia.'

Only the poem 'The Old Folks at Home' is an American production. The melody was first heard in 'Clari, the Maid of Milan,' a musical play produced in London in 1832. Our author says, "It is scarcely proper to claim 'Home, Sweet Home,' as an American song, but we may be permitted to correct a few errors concerning it." We cannot, however, find among his comments any correction of errors, but only familiar statements regarding the play 'Clari' and Sir Henry Bishop. This volume, small in compass, is nevertheless a valuable contribution towards the history of national music in America. The author hopes that Messrs. Paine, MacDowell, Parker, or one of other contemporary composers named, will "bring forth the music of the true national hymn of America," a "nobler one than any of those which she has appropriated."

Studies of Great Composers. By C. Hubert H. Parry, Mus.Doc. Sixth Edition. (Routledge & Sons.)—The author of this interesting work reminds readers in his preface that as these "studies" were originally written for young people, they do not "attempt to deal with the profounder and more abstruse questions which are of interest to advanced musicians and students, and professed masters of artistic philosophy." There are, therefore, no new views to discuss, and although we may not endorse every one of Dr. Parry's statements, his book undoubtedly offers sound, healthy, profitable reading to young folk. And a sixth edition within fourteen years speaks for itself.

Musical Gossip.

MR. PLUNKET GREENE and Mr. Leonard Borwick gave their second song and pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall on Friday afternoon last week. Among a number of interesting songs were Sir Hubert Parry's arrangement of the early sixteenth-century 'Von edler Art,' Dr. Stanford's arrangement of the eighteenth-century 'Entendez-vous le Carillon du Verre?' and settings of various poems by Mrs. Caroline Maude, Dr. E. Walker, and Mr. Elgar. Mr. Borwick played Beethoven's Sonata in c minor, Op. 111, with excellent judgment and effect. He also performed, and in his best manner, pieces by Handel, Mozart, Chopin, and Brahms.

HERR HALIR was leader at the Popular Concert on Saturday afternoon, and with the assistance of Messrs. Haydn Inwards, Gibson, and Hugo Becker gave a sound, satisfactory performance of Beethoven's Quartet in f minor (Op. 95). The German violinist gave a technically good, though not particularly sympathetic rendering of the solo passages in Spohr's 'Scenes Cantante.' Miss Fanny Davies's rendering of three Chopin Preludes was as usual earnest and artistic. The programme concluded with Brahms's fine Sonata in f (Op. 99) for piano and 'cello. The National Anthem was sung in the course of the afternoon by Mrs. Hutchinson, as soloist, and the audience.

ONE of the victims of the war in South Africa, Major C. R. Day, of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, who was dangerously wounded at Paardeberg on the 18th ult., and has since died, deserves mention here on account of his valuable studies in Indian music, which were published in a handsome volume illustrated by Mr. William Gibb (Novello & Co.; reviewed in the *Athenæum*, December 12th, 1891), and of an admirable catalogue of the wind instruments shown in the Military Exhibition at Chelsea the previous year, published by Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode. We have lost a man in his prime (he was born in 1860), who might have advanced our military music, in which he took so keen an interest, and have gone further along the byways of non-harmonic musical systems had he been spared. Major Day was a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, a member of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh's committee of the Vienna Exhibition, 1892, and of the Committee of Advice to the Royal Commission for the Paris Exhibition this year.

On March 13th Mr. John S. Bumpus will read a paper at the Musical Association entitled 'Irish Church Composers.'

THE *Londoner* is the title of a new weekly review which will shortly appear. Among other subjects, music, painting, and the drama will be represented. The first number will contain an article by Mr. F. H. Cowen concerning the impressions produced on him by his own music.

THE death is announced of Jules Armingaud, an excellent violinist, who, in conjunction with MM. Léon Jacquard, Édouard Lalo, since famed as a composer, and Mas, founded a quartet

society at Paris about the year 1855. Armingaud published various pieces for violin, but he was also the author of two books, 'Consonances et Dissonances' and 'Modulations.' He was born at Bayonne in 1820.

JOSEPH DUPONT, the *chef-d'orchestre* of La Monnaie, Brussels, died scarcely two months ago, and now we have to record the sudden death of M. Oscar Stoumon, one of the two directors of that theatre who lately resigned. *Le Ménestrel* of March 4th speaks of him as an excellent administrator and a true artist. He was born at Liège in 1836, and went to Brussels in 1858. He received musical instruction from Meyerbeer. Stoumon wrote many operas and ballets. In conjunction with M. Calabrési he assumed the direction of La Monnaie in 1875.

HERR SIEGFRIED WAGNER will conduct a Colonne Concert at Paris during the present month. Herr Richard Strauss is now in Paris, a friendly rival, at the Lamoureux Concerts.

LEOPOLD GRÜTZMACHER, an excellent violoncellist, younger brother of Friedrich Grützmacher, the renowned violoncellist of Leipzig and Dresden, died last week at Weimar. He was born at Dessau in 1835.

Le Ménestrel of February 26th announces that Humperdinck, completely recovered from his recent illness, is putting the finishing touches to a comic opera, of which he is carefully concealing the title. The composer's sister wrote the libretto of 'Hänsel und Gretel,' but the new book is said to be from the pen of his father.

EUGEN D'ALBERT's opera 'Kain' was produced at the Opera-house, Berlin, on February 17th, under the able direction of Dr. Muck. Herr B. Hoffmann in the title rôle appears to have greatly distinguished himself. The poem by Herr Heinrich Bulhaupt is based on Byron's 'Cain.' Herr Otto Lessmann in the *Allgemeine Musik-Zeitung* speaks of the music as the "powerful utterance of a great creative talent."

ACCORDING to the *Signale* of February 20th the posthumous ballet 'Aschenbrödel,' by Johann Strauss, will be produced for the first time, not at Vienna, but at the Berlin Opera-house.

We read in *Le Ménestrel* of March 4th that M. Charles Rouland, the organist of St. Peter's, Vienna, recently found in an old cupboard, which had not been opened for many years, autographs of Beethoven and Schubert, and among them the autograph of the Rondo in b flat for pianoforte and orchestra which Beethoven never finished, and which was supposed by Otto Jahn to have been intended for the Concerto in b flat (Op. 19). In 1829, two years after the death of the composer, Czerny completed the Rondo, and it was published by A. Diabelli. The autograph has been handed over to the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde. It is to be hoped that *Le Ménestrel* or some other paper will say something about the remaining contents of the cupboard.

At a recent conférence at the Goldoni Theatre, Venice, where he is putting the finishing touches to his new opera 'The Masks,' Mascagni disengaged on revolution in musical art. After expressing his admiration for the genius of Wagner, he complained of the musical critics who induced young Italian composers to copy in superficial fashion the German master. He also expressed the opinion that the time had come to return to true Italian national music, such as that of Cimarosa and Mozart. Though expressed in somewhat exaggerated form, these sentiments seem worth notice.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Sunday Society Concert, 3.30, Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Monday Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
TUES.	Wednesday Chamber Concert, 8.15, Queen's Hall.
WED.	Ivan Caryll's Orchestra Concert, 8.15, Queen's Hall.
THURS.	Madame Carreño's Piano-forte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
FRI.	Saturday Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
SAT.	Saturday Popular Concert, 3.30, Crystal Palace.
SUN.	London Ballad Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Annual Irish Ballad Concert, 8, Exeter Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

LYCEUM.—'Hamlet' "in its entirety."

A CERTAIN academic interest attends the presentation of an unabridged version of 'Hamlet.' Whether such has been seen on the English stage before it was given by Mr. Benson first at Stratford-on-Avon, and now at the Lyceum, is a matter concerning which conjecture is baffled. Of the early performances of 'Hamlet,' whether at Court or university, subsequent to the creation by Burbage of the title rôle, we know practically nothing. Both the Second Quarto and the text of the First Folio, accepted as authoritative, were, the former certainly, the latter presumably, printed from copies which had been curtailed by the actors. Copies with marks of further excisions, made subsequent to the Restoration for the purpose of bringing the whole within limits suitable to performance, are, it is understood, in existence. With the advent of Garrick came the plan, subsequently followed by actor-managers, of issuing their own adaptations of the play, in which not only almost every character except Hamlet himself was deprived of a portion of the words assigned him, but also, on occasion, whatever effective speech could, without violation of probability, be taken from other prominent characters was assigned to the hero. On these revelations, often sickening, of the vanity of managers, known as "acting editions," there is no cause to dwell. Mr. Benson at least has dealt "fairly and squarely" with the play, and has gone as near to giving the recognized text of the Folio as the conditions of the modern stage permit. That the coarse and insolent speeches of Hamlet to Ophelia were ever spoken on the stage is hard to believe.

Mrs. Benson, as Ophelia, begins one of the snatches of licentious song, and is checked by the grief of the spectators and an interruption from without. To those familiar with the original text, who on such an occasion must constitute a very large majority of the public, this plan offers the requisite amount of suggestion. No fault whatever is, indeed, to be found with the manner in which the experiment is conducted. It is not difficult even to condone imperfections and inaccuracies of delivery when we think how difficult is the task undertaken. Genuine enjoyment is derived from the restitution of passages never previously heard upon the stage. Again, while there is much that is inadequate and amateurish in the performance, there is nothing jarring or offensive. Mr. Benson is but a colourless and an uninspiring Hamlet, and the characters generally are feebly portrayed. Laertes is perhaps the best. Still the whole serves an educational purpose, and repays attention. That it repays the expenditure of time involved will scarcely be said. One understands how at Bayreuth a world of enthusiasts may spend in listening to the music of Wagner all the parts of a day not occupied by the discharge of the functions indispensable to prolonged existence. Bayreuth is not London, however. It may be doubted if in any place where life is quick and active an experiment of the kind

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could be carried to a satisfactory issue. Wagnerian masterpieces, moreover, can scarcely be enjoyed except under conditions such as are realized at Bayreuth. We can, however, all of us read the whole of 'Hamlet' at our ease and leisure, and the amount of illumination afforded is not sufficient to justify the substitution for one's easy-chair of the crowning discomfort of a Lyceum stall, and the devotion to the theatre of what is practically the whole of a working day.

RECENT PLAYS.

Osbern and Ursyne, a Drama in Three Acts. By John Oliver Hobbes. (Lane.)—The new drama of John Oliver Hobbes, the scene of which is laid in an English castle in the year 1098, is lacking neither in passion nor in poetry. It is, however, rough and eccentric in versification, and reminds us of what was known as the spasmodic school of poetry. Hugh, Earl of Carliol, betrothed to Arlette, of Belesmes, but in love with and beloved by Ursyne, daughter of Count Geoffrey, has, it is thought, been slain in the wars. His spouse elect has consoled herself in secret with Eadric, a Saxon nobleman, while Ursyne, though devoted to the memory of her dead lover, listens without rebuking them to the pleadings of the bastard Osbern. Considerable trouble mixes, accordingly, with the rejoicings with which the return of Hugh, who is not dead, is greeted. Preparations for the contemplated nuptials are resumed, but Hugh's love is all for Ursyne. Their stealthy embraces are seen by Osbern, who slays the earl and departs. Though the blame of the deed falls for a while upon Eadric the Saxon, the truth is told by Osbern himself, who is condemned to expiate the crime by tortures. From these he is freed by Ursyne, who slays him with the poignard of the dead earl, and herself expires upon his body. Not easy to understand is the character of the heroine, who, while loving Hugh, encourages, and to some extent participates in Osbern's raptures. This, however, is not the first time when masculine comprehension has failed to grasp feminine subtleties. The closing scene has nobility as well as pathos, and the play, though it scarcely seems calculated for stage exposition, is powerful, and in a sense dramatic. Written partly in prose and partly in verse blank or with rhymed triplets, it constitutes a curious metrical experiment. Never before can a drama aiming at production have contained a speech made of lines, halting at times, and so strangely rhymed as the following:

Betrothed were they, but, since her years
Were still so new, the Earl had fears
Marriage would bring but showers of tears.
He thought this more when he saw there
Her cousin Ursyne's raven hair,
And eyes that drew him with flames more fair
Than Elfin light on marshes deep.
Whene'er he looked, she seemed to weep.
Little by little, false love did creep
Into his heart. Betrothed was he
To Arlette, yet, O misery!
Ursyne did hold him in captivity.

There are several similar speeches, which, however, must not be taken as showing the writer at her best. The love scenes are represented in passages such as this:—

This is not gladness; never think it is,
Nor ever think 'twas either harp or danse
Which gave thy face the perfume of the rose
And something fairer than the rose's flush.
This is love's miracle when love meets love;

lines that might easily be ascribed to Dobell, Beddoes, or Alexander Smith. It may sound a prosaic criticism, but in the following lines is there not a mistake:—

When I did think thee dead, the woman in me
Was all distinguished. Hast thou not seen lights
Burn brightly for a while, then, suddenly,
After some futile waving in the wind,
Go out in utter darkness? I was so.

Surely for "distinguished" we should read extinguished.

The Black Tulip. By Alexandre Dumas. Done into English by J. Adair FitzGerald. (Greening & Co.)—Mr. Adair FitzGerald is responsible for what is known as the "Haymarket edition" of 'The Black Tulip.' It is a thoroughly workmanlike rendering, and gives as good an idea as can be obtained of the pretty romance on which Mr. Grundy based his play. It has a short and excellent introduction, a frontispiece showing Mr. Cyril Maude as Doctor Van Baerle and Miss Winifred Emery as the fair Rose, with plates of Mr. Harrison as Willem of Orange, Mr. Kinghorne as Isaac Boxtel, and other illustrations.

"BEGET" AND "BEGETTER" IN ELIZABETHAN ENGLISH.

I AM not one of those bold bad men who assert that "beget" is never used for "procure" or "obtain" in Elizabethan English; but I hold that no Elizabethan example of the word in that sense has yet been exhibited. Mr. Lee's contention seems to me singularly inconclusive, and is certainly not free from serious error.

1. Mr. Lee states that "Cotgrave in his French-English dictionary places 'procure' and 'procurer' as synonyms for 'beget' and 'begetter' when he reaches the headings *engendrer* and *engendreleur*." It is important that Shakespearean students should know how to use Cotgrave: all the English words rendering different senses of a French word are not necessarily English synonyms; thus *pourchasser* means to "procure" and also to "follow," but these English words are not synonyms. Often when introducing a second distinct meaning after that first given Cotgrave uses the word "also"; often he separates distinct meanings by a semicolon; sometimes the semicolon has no more force than a comma. In the case of *engendrer* and *engendreleur* Cotgrave (1611) gives two groups of different meanings separated by semicolons:

"*Engendrer.* To ingender, procreate, beget, breed; cause, make, procure, begin."

"*Engendreleur.* An ingenderer, begetter, breeder; a maker, procurer, beginner of."

Cotgrave does not identify in meaning "beget" and "procure"; he distinguishes them.

2. Mr. Lee writes: "In 1671 Skinner in his 'Etymologicum Linguae Anglicane' interprets 'beget' by the Latin word *obtinere*." On the contrary, Skinner interprets "beget" by *gignere*, and by that alone. He derives "beget" from Anglo-Saxon "begettan" which he interprets rightly as *obtinere*: "Beget, Gignere, ab A.-S. Begettan, Obtinere." Skinner's testimony goes directly against Mr. Lee's contention.

3. Mr. Lee alarms his opponents by the appeal to authority—that of "the editors of the great Variorum edition [of Shakespeare] of 1821, whose judgments are never lightly to be called in question." The opinion referred to is that of James Boswell (the younger) alone, who signs the note on "begetter," and that opinion is grounded on the fact that Dekker in "Satiromastix" uses "beget" in the sense of "get."

4. Let us, therefore, come to Dekker, whom Mr. Lee cites. The word "beget" is used by Dekker's Welsh knight, who, says Mr. Lee, "mispronounces his English, although there is no patent eccentricity in his vocabulary." Many of poor Dekker's attempts at fun have failed to gain Mr. Lee's attention; yet, among many others, the following blunders of the knight can hardly be considered latent: "indite" (as with Benvolio in 'Romeo and Juliet') for *invite*, "terminations" for *determinations*, "thalaminous" for *epithalamium*, "hypocrisies," "nittigrams (epigrams)," "computations" (imputations), "solitaries," "intollerabilities," "Horace is ambition" (*ambitious*), "morter-morphosis" (*metamorphoses*), "lawrefied," "in briefiness," "God bless your Majesty," says Sir Vaughan, with no mispronunciation, "and send you to be a long King William Rufus over us, when he sees his times

and pleasures." "We thank you, good Sir Vaughan," replies Rufus, "we will take your meaning, not your words." I must quote a few words of the "beget" passage which Mr. Lee has omitted: "If I fall sansomely [=handsomely] upon the Widdow, I have some cossons Garman at Court, shall beget you the reversion of the Master of the Kings Revels." The jesting, which is poor and uncomely, shows why Sir Vaughan is made to blunder on the word "beget."

5. Mr. Lee cites Hamlet's advice to the players, "acquire and beget a temperance." I do not think that Shakespeare meant "acquire and get." He may have meant "acquire," which comes from training, and "beget," which comes from artistic impulse; or "acquire" may refer to the actor, and "beget" (call into being) may refer to the audience; or "acquire" may mean have in possession, and "beget" produce in speech and action.

6. Mr. Lee's two remaining instances (to which a score could be added) may be dealt with together. "The thing.....that begets him hate" is cited from 'Lucrece'; and from the 'Magnetic Lady,' "beget him a reputation, and marry an Emperor's daughter." These are examples of meaning 4 of 'New English Dictionary,' "to call unto being, give rise to; to produce, occasion." And as the producing of a thing often results in the *procuring* it, we might expect that some dictionary-makers would, for this meaning of the word, give foreign words meaning "procure" as equivalent to "beget."

But I know of no Elizabethan dictionary which does this; nor, apparently, does Mr. Lee. Why resort to a 'Phraseologia' of 1681 and an English-Dutch dictionary of 1691? All the seventeenth-century lexicographers who notice the words "beget" and "begetter," says Mr. Lee, "supply incontrovertible evidence of their habitual use in the sense of 'procure' and 'procurer.'" The assertion could not be stronger, but Mr. Lee omits to supply any Elizabethan evidence. I have looked into Elizabethan dictionaries—Cooper, Rider, Baret, Minshew, Florio, Cotgrave, and others—in all of which I have found examples, either as English head-word or under corresponding foreign words, of "beget," but up to the present I have failed to find it used anywhere in the sense "acquire."

Canon Ainger's example from Sheridan, to which Mr. Lee refers, "beget an awful attention in the audience," is an example of meaning 4 of 'New Eng. Dict.,' "call into being." His second example—Wordsworth's

And listen till I do beget
That golden time again—

means engender or reproduce (in the imagination).

I still hope from Mr. Lee's industry and erudition the discovery of an Elizabethan example of "beget" meaning "acquire," which, I agree with him, we might naturally expect to find.

EDWARD DOWDEN.

MR. SIDNEY LEE has alluded to the existence of "a few bold spirits," who, he alleges, "have denied that the words 'beget' and 'begetter' could bear a meaning in Elizabethan English that they do not bear in Victorian speech."

Will Mr. Lee be kind enough to name one of these bold spirits? I know of no one who has denied that "begetter" in Elizabethan English could ever bear the meaning which Mr. Lee would put upon it. All I have seen maintained is that "engenderer" is a more usual meaning for the word, whether in Elizabethan or Victorian English, and that, this being so, it should not be set aside unless for stronger reasons than those adduced by Mr. Lee.

Mr. Lee should not speak of his opinion as supported by the "editors of the great variorum edition of 1821." There was no such "great variorum edition of 1821" as Mr. Lee's words

imply. What appeared in 1821 was a new edition of Malone's Shakspeare edited nine years after Malone's death by James Boswell, who had no co-editor, and who is alone responsible for endorsing the opinion that "begetter" means "procurer." He detaches himself in a signed note from Malone, who interpreted "begetter" in its usual sense.

SAMUEL BUTLER.

MR. LEE appears to me to have made out a very good case for his interpretation of this word, but I think that he is straining his theory to the breaking point when he says "an Elizabethan would talk of 'becoming' when he meant no more than 'coming,'" because the sons of the Duke of York seek to be "resolved where our right valiant father is 'become.'"

In this sentence I should have said that "become" is merely the participle of "come," as "begone" is of "go."

C. TRICE MARTIN.

THE FIRST QUARTO 'HAMLET.'

With reference to the recent performance by the Elizabethan Stage Society of the First Quarto 'Hamlet,' some of the press have objected that the text of the Quarto was not given as it was written. Perhaps, as many students may not be acquainted with the text of this quarto, space may be allowed me in your columns to state that the language as it stands cannot be spoken on the stage, the sentences in many cases being unconnected with each other, and not even completed. Revision, therefore, was essential, and the plan adopted was that of replacing the imperfect lines by those from the First Folio wherever they suggested Shakspeare's text. Take, for instance, Corambis's words in Act II. sc. i. They appear thus in the First Quarto :

Cor. You shall do very well Montano, to say thus, I knew the gentleman, or know his father, To inquire the manner of his life, As thus : being amongst his acquaintance, You may say, you saw him at such a time, marke you mee, At game, or drinking, swearing, or drabbing, You may go so farre.

But although the words are misplaced and misreported, so as almost to make nonsense, it can hardly be doubted that the quotation represents Shakspeare's words as they appear in the full play. The First Folio was chosen as the basis for revision because there are characteristics common to the First Folio and First Quarto which would suggest that the Second Quarto bears no affinity to the First Quarto.

The very imperfect state of the text in this First Quarto has caused commentators to overlook two things which, in my opinion, are of vital interest in this version of Shakspeare's tragedy, viz., the altered form in the construction of the play and the stage directions. The transposition of the Hamlet and Ophelia scene from the third to the second act, and the compression of the fourth and fifth acts, rendered possible by the introduction of the scene between Horatio and the Queen, are alterations made with dramatic intention and skill. This reconstruction should not be confused with the want of intelligence shown in the printing of the text. Why was the play reconstructed and who was responsible for it? These are questions which have not yet been answered. With regard to the original stage directions, it is strange that the instructions for Ophelia's entrance in the mad scene, together with those for the Ghost in the closet, and for the funeral procession later on—though all of them in accordance with Shakspeare's words—have been ignored in our modern editions and replaced by others, which are not only unwarranted, but even misleading; yet the one uncontested assertion with regard to the First Quarto is that it bears evidence of being printed from notes taken at a representation of the play, and therefore must indicate how it was acted before an Elizabethan audience.

WILLIAM POEL.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE customary influence has been exercised by Lent, and the production of novelty at the West-End theatres has been interrupted. This evening witnesses at the Adelphi the beginning of Mr. Taber's season, and the consequent production of Mr. Irving's 'Bonnie Dundee.' In other respects the week at the West-End houses has been uneventful.

At the Vaudeville, now closed, the next novelty seems likely to be an adaptation of 'Mon Enfant' by Owen Hall and S. X. Court alternative titles of which are 'Our Baby' and 'An Authors' Syndicate.'

Forty minutes have, it is stated, been cut out of 'Don Juan's Last Wager.' This, so far as it goes, is naturally an improvement. Whether the story of Don Juan in ordinary circumstances will ever commend itself to an English public seems doubtful. Some things, at least, become increasingly obvious. Our actor-managers must, if ever they wish to rank with their European contemporaries, get rid of their deplorable and most inartistic craving for sympathy even when they are playing a part such as Don Juan, and if we cannot get women to play such characters as procresses, their representation must be banished from the stage. The second observation has but an oblique reference to the Prince of Wales's performance.

THE last report concerning Terry's Theatre is that it will be reopened by its proprietor about Easter with a revival of 'The Passport,' the adaptation by Messrs. Yardley and Stephenson of 'My Official Life,' by Col. Savage, first given at the same theatre April 25th, 1895.

A not particularly interesting representation of 'The Rivals,' with Mr. Benson as Capt. Absolute and Mrs. Benson as Lydia Languish, is being given at the Lyceum on alternate nights with 'Hamlet.'

THE 27th inst. is fixed for the revival at the Haymarket of 'The Rivals,' with Mr. Cyril Maude as Bob Acres, Mrs. Maude as Lydia, Miss Beatrice Ferrar as Lucy, Miss Lily Hanbury as Julia, Mr. Harrison as Falkland, Mr. Valentine as Sir Antony, and Mr. Paul Arthur as Capt. Absolute.

MR. HARE and Mr. Gilbert Hare, who have now been rejoined by Miss Irene Vanbrugh, began on Monday at the Kensington Theatre the country tour of 'The Gay Lord Quex.'

'THE DANCING GIRL,' by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, was produced on Monday at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, the author's daughters Winifred and Ethelwynn taking parts in the cast.

We regret to hear, as we are going to press, that the most famous theatre in the world, the Théâtre Français, the scene of the triumphs of Talma, Mars, and Rachel, has been destroyed by fire. The house was built in 1787 for the Duke of Orleans (Philippe Égalité) by Louis : the façade was rebuilt after the siege of 1870-1.

THE performance at Wallack's Theatre, New York, of 'Sapho' has been arrested pending a legal decision, and Miss Olga Nethersole is now appearing in 'The Second Mrs. Tanqueray.'

A new theatre is to be opened at Amsterdam in October under the name of the National Theatre. The promoters hope to secure the services of Heijermans, the author of the successful plays 'The Ghetto' and 'The Seventh Commandment,' as literary adviser.

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